The World's Daily Newspaper

London, Thursday, March 4, 1999

German Irritation High Over Stasi Files in U.S.

Officials Hint at Curbs on Joint Intelligence

By William Drozdiak Washington Post Service

When Gerhard Schroeder was invited to lunch at the White House by President Bill Clinton last month, the German chancellor was fervently hoping he would return home with a special gift: the top-secret archives of East Germany's foreign spy operations that the CIA spirited away after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Ry the time he arrived in Washington

By the time he arrived in Washington, however, Mr. Schroeder had received disappointing news. His chief troubleshooter, Bodo Hombach, who had been sent to Washington in advance to close the deal, had run smack into what he later called a barrier of "mutual mistrust." Not only would Mr. Clinton not release the files, he did not even want to discuss the matter, according to White House and chancellery aides.

While Mr. Schroeder sought to dismiss the rebuff by declaring that the two leaders simply did not have enough time to discuss the issue, senior aides said privately the chancellor was outraged by the United States' refusal to surrender files that Germany considers its property. They warned that the impasse soon could seriously damage cooperation on mtelligence and other matters between the countries.

German officials hint that the time may be coming to curtail operations of U.S. intelligence agencies in Germany, including eavesdropping facilities such as the powerful U.S. radar and communications systems at Bad Aibling, near Munich, that some Germans suspect

are used for commercial espionage. According to diplomats, politicians and intelligence officials interviewed in the United States and Germany, the campaign to recover the "crown jewels" of the East German state security apparatus, or Stasi, has escalated into an emotional test case for Mr. Schroeder's government as it seeks to reassert the full sovereignty of a remitted Germany and establish a more equitable part-

nership with Washington. The files are said to contain the iden-

U.S. Steps Back In Banana War, But Reserves Tariff Threat

By Anne Swardson Washington Post Service

PARIS — The U.S. government said Wednesday that it would conditionally impose new tariffs on more than \$500 million worth of selected European exports in protest at European Union proections on bananas.

The action means that no duties will be levied yet but that the United States reserves the right to retroactively implement the 100 percent tariffs on a list of European products that includes Scottish cashmere, Italian cheese, French handbags and British cookies.

In the banana dispute, Washington stepped down slightly from an earlier threat to unilaterally impose retaliatory tariffs. On Tuesday, a World Trade Organization panel put off a decision on how much damage the EU banana regime had caused to American companion that the companion of nies, thereby removing what U.S. of-ficials had hoped would be a procedural boost to the controversial tariffs.

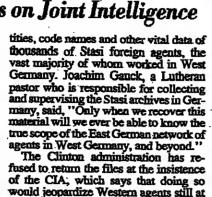
'We are pleased that the WTO arbitrators are clearly focused on the question of economic damages, and we respect their desire for more information," the U.S. special trade negotiator Peter Scher said.

The office of the U.S. Trade Representative indicated that the duties would be levied without fail; the only question was their dollar amount. But officials on both sides have said they would prefer a negotiated settlement.

On another front of the simmering trans-Atlantic trade battle, the House of Representatives voted Wednesday to ban supersonic Concorde aircraft flights to the United States if the EU pursues a plan to ban airplanes retrofitted with noise-reduction devices known as hush kits, starting in 2002. Washington says the ban would hurt sales of more than \$1 billion in U.S. products and cause the resale value of older Boeing planes to plummet. (Page 13)

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See STASI, Page 6

large. But many Germans believe the U.S. attempt to protect Germans and

other Westerners implicated in the files

hold powerful political positions - is

preventing their nation from settling its accounts with history and achieving a full reconciliation between East and West.

some of whom are believed still to



riot suspect before releasing him Wednesday. Mobs believed to have been made up of opponents of President-elect Ohusegun Obasanjo attacked a police station and a barrack. Police sources said at least five officers were killed. It was the second day of violence in Lagos in the aftermath of the presidential election last weekend. Page 4.

– Nigerian

Beijing Sets New High In Deficit **Spending**

Infrastructure Outlays To Offset Weak Exports And Consumer Activity

By Benjamin Kang Lim and Bill Savadove

BELIING — The Chinese govern-ment will resort to record deficit spending this year as it attempts prime the economy for 7 percent growth, Prime Minister Zhu Rongji will tell lawmakers

In a speech to be delivered Friday to a budget-approving session of the National People's Congress, Mr. Zhu will make clear that Beijing will rely, as it did last year, on huge outlays on tele-communications, highways and waterworks to drive an economy weakened

by the downturn in Asia.

His speech, parts of which were leaked Wednesday, offers little hope that China's other main engines of growth — domestic consumption, trade and foreign investment — will recover. Mr. Zhu foresees a deficit of 150.3

A call for Tiananmen redress, Page 4. • Hong Kong stimulus. Page 13.

billion yuan (\$18.15 hillion), a sharp jump of 56 percent over last year's shortfall bnt, at about 2 percent of gross domestic product, relatively modest by international standards. But that amount apparently does not include the hillions of dollars China spends annually to keep state industries afloat.

In Hong Kong, newspapers quoting leaked copies of speeches to be given at the annual congress reported that Chinese military spending would rise 12.7 percent, to 104.65 billion yuan. That figure includes 5 billion yuan in compensation to People's Liberation Army units that have been compelled to close businesses, the Hong Kong Eco-

The South China Morning Post reported government expenditures would rise 14.7 percent, to 738.9 billion yuan, this year and revenue would expand by 7.3 percent, to 588.6 billion yuan.

The reports gave no hint of any major

changes in economic policy.

In his speech, Mr. Zhu will pledge to adopt a prudent monetary policy and maintain stability in the yuan this year despite the temptation of a devaluation to boost exports. He also will say that China will maintain its balance of payments and foreign-exchange reserves, which reached a massive \$145 billion at the end of 1998.

"Realizing economic growth of around 7 percent will not be easy, but with effort it can still be reached," Mr. Zhu's speech says. "The external economic environment we face this year remains extremely serious. It will be difficult to see a relatively big increase in domestic consumption demand for a period of time."

Chinese officials say the economy grew by 7.8 percent last year, helped mainly by massive spending ou infrastructure. Many private economists say

See CHINA, Page 4

Progress and Problems

How Much Privacy Do People Really Need?

By John Markoff

SAN FRANCISCO - Intel Corp. recently blinked in a confrontation with privacy advocates protesting the company's plans to ship its newest generation of microprocessors with an embedded serial number that could be used to identify a computer — and by extension, its user,

But those on both sides of the dis-pute acknowledge that it was only an initial skinnish in a wider struggle. From computers to cellular phones to digital video players, everyday devices and software programs are increas-ingly embedding telltale identifying numbers that enable them to interact.

Whether such digital fingerprints constitute an imminent privacy threat or are simply part of the foundation of advanced computer systems and networks is the subject of a growing debate between the computer industry

and privacy groups.

At the heart of the argument is a fundamental disagreement over the role of electronic anonymity in a democratic society.

Privacy groups argue fiercely that the merger of computers and the Internet has brought the specter of a new

surveillance society in which it will be difficult to find any device whose use cannot be traced to the user.

But a growing alliance of computer industry executives, engineers, law enforcement officials and scholars contend that absolute anonymity is not only increasingly difficult to ohtain technically but is also a potential threat to democratic order because of the possibility of electronie crime and ter-

"Yon already have zero privacy — get over it," Scott McNealy, chairman and chief executive of Sun Microsystems Inc., said at a recent news conference held to introduce the com-pany's newest software. Known as Jini, the software is intended to interconnect virtually all types of electronic devices from computers to cam-

Privacy advocates contend that software like Jini, which assigns an identification number to each device each time it connects to a network, could be misused as networks envelop almost everyone in society in a dense weh of devices that see, hear and monitor behavior and location. Once information becomes avail-

See PRIVACY, Page 12

Update on Y2K Bug Sees Turmoil for Some

By Art Pine Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON - A special Senate panel has warned that possible computer crashes next Jan. 1 could spawn disruptions leading to civil unrest in some countries, with an outside risk that they also could prompt terrorist attacks amid the resulting confusion.

While rating the probability of increased terrorism as "low to medi-

um," panel members told senators in a private briefing that the lag in year 2000 preparations around the globe posed a serious threat and urged tepped-up efforts to deal with it. Neither the chairman of the special

nel, Robert Bennett, Republican of Utah, nor the report publicly identified specific countries that the committee fears could experience civil disorder as a result of computer disruptions. But ic impact in parts of Latin America, Africa and Asia.

An assessment by the Gartner Group, a private consulting firm that helped prepare the report, predicted a 33 percent chance of major computer crashes in countries such as Brazil, France, Hungary, Mexico Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.

It cited a 66 percent prospect of systemic failures in countries such as China, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Phil-

ippines, Russia and Thailand. Countries such as Australia, Britain, Canada, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States were given a 15 percent chance of a major breakdown, "The committee is greatly con-cerned about the international Y2K

said the report, released Tuesday. At the same time, the panel issued a detailed report that suggested disruptions in the United States were likely to be far less widespread than in most other countries and were unlikely to last longer than a few days at most,

The 163-page document outlined serious concerns about the readiness of some U.S. industries, such as medical service providers, to deal with the computer problem. But it said that many key sectors, from financial services Mr. Bennett pointed to heavy econom- and utilities to telecommunications were in good shape. The report marked the first com-

prehensive survey hy Congress of in-ternational readiness for the so-called Y2K prohlem. Lawmakers in both houses of Congress are pushing through legislation

See BUG, Page 12

\$50,000 Offer for Egg Donor Sharpens the Debate

By Gina Kolata

NEW YORK - The advertisements started appearing last week in newspapers at top U.S. schools

Ivy League colleges, Stanford University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, California In-

stitute of Technology.

"Egg Donor Needed," the advertisements said. adding. 'Large Financial Incentive.'

The ad said a "loving family" was looking for a 5foot-10-inch (1.78-meter) athletic woman who had

AGENDA

German's Execution

FLORENCE, Arizona (AFP) - A

federal appeals court Wednesday halt-

ed the planned execution of Walter

LaGrand, a German national, saying

use of the gas chamber in Arizona may

be unconstitutional, a prison spokes-

Paul McMurdie, a prosecutor, said the state would immediately appeal the

ruling to the Supreme Court. Mr. La-Grand, a convicted murderer, was to

have died at 3 P.M. (2200 GMT), a week

after his brother was put to death here.

Earlier article, Page 12.

The Dollar

Wednesday @ 4 P.M. previous close

1.0923

+0.27%

U.S. Court Halts

scored at least 1400 on her SAT examination and who had no major family medical problems. In return, she would receive \$50,000.

Already, more than 200 women have responded to the offer of what is believed to be the largest amount of money ever offered for a woman's eggs. Darlene Pinkerton, who with her lawyer-husband, Thomas Pinkerton, placed the ads on behalf of an infertile couple, said that most respondents were from Ivy League schools and that she was starting to get calls from women as far away as Finland and New Zealand. Women who are too short or whose SAT scores

are too low are also calling, Ms. Pinkerton said. But Ms. Pinkerton said that when she ran the same ad in October, without mentioning the price the

couple would pay, she got only six responses.
Until now, ethicists argued whether \$5,000 was too much to pay for an egg donor. They debated whether it was coercive for conples to ask for SAT scores or height or favorite books when they sought egg donors. But, some ethicists say, a \$50,000 price, in a donor market that just a year ago was reeling

See DONOR, Page 12

Lewinsky's Friends Fear Starr Retaliation on Book

By Don Van Natta Jr.

published this week, Monica Lewinsky is so critical of the independent counsel Kenneth Start that several of her friends and associates say they fear that Mr. Starr will become angry, try to revoke her immunity agreement and prosecute her.

Ms. Lewinsky says m the book, "Monica's Story" by Andrew Morton, that she was so despondent at her treatment by prosecutors who confronted her at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Pentagon City, in suhurban Virginia, on Jan. 16, 1998, that she briefly considered killing herself in their presence, said two people familiar with the contents of her book. She is described as being deeply sym-

pathetic to the president. Immediately after she was confronted by Mr. Starr's prosecutors, Mr. Morton writes, Ms. Lewinsky "said she had this overwhelming thought: She must warn the president

Plato Cacheris, one of Ms. Lewinsky's lawyers, said Tuesday night that neither he nor her other lead lawyer, Jacob Stein, had seen the book's manuscript or galley proofs.

"Monica and Andrew Morton did
this on their own," Mr. Cacheris said.

"We did not vet the book." Several friends of the Lewinsky fam-

ily said they were worried that Ms. Lewinsky's remarks might backfire. "It's a big concern to us," an associate of Ms. Lewinsky's said. "She's

bound by this agreement." Citing the immunity agreement under which Ms. Lewinsky testified about her affair with President Bill Clinton and efforts to cover it up, Mr. Starr did not permit Ms. Lewinsky to discuss his office's conduct in a two-hour interview with Barbara Walters to be broadcast on ABC on Wednesday night, But Ms. Lewinsky was free to discuss Mr. Starr's office with Mr. Morton because her

agreement did not apply to the book. In a brief portion of her interview with Ms. Walters broadcast Wednesday morning, Ms. Lewinsky said that she felt like "a piece of trash" the day Mr. Clinton was forced to admit their affair on national television and apologized to the nation but not to her, The Associated Press reported from Washington.

["I felt dirty and I felt nsed, and I was disappointed," Ms. Lewinsky said. Asked by Ms. Walters whether Mr. Clinton really cared for her, Ms. Lew-insky said, "Some days I think yes, and some days I think no." Ms. Lewinsky was shown on the clip watching Mr. Clinton's televised apology to the nation last Aug. 17, the day he gave his

grand jury testimony.

[Asked whether she believed Mr. Clinton felt remorse, Ms. Lewinsky said that as a politician, "I think he's sorry he got caught." But she added, "When I think of the person I thought Bill Clinton was, he had genuine remorse."]
In the book, Ms. Lewinsky says that

See SCANDAL, Page 12

New York Times Service WASHINGTON - In a book to be

Captain Richard Ashby leaving court alone after testimony ended.

Fate of Marine Pilot Is in Jury's Hands CAMP LEJEUNE, North Carolina He was outright dangerous."

AP) — Jurors Wednesday began But Frank Spinner, the defense law-(AP) — Jurors Wednesday began weighing the fate of a Marine pilot charged with involuntary manslanghter for flying his jet into an Italian ski lift cable, killing 20 people.

The eight Marine officers closeted themselves early in the afternoon following summations by prosecutors and defense lawyers that lasted nearly four hours.

In his closing statement, the pros-ecutor, Major Daniel Daugherty, told the jurors that Captain Richard Ashby was guilty because "he was too low, he was too fast, he was too aggressive.

yer, said it was "a training accident and nothing more.' Captain Ashby is charged with involuntary manslaughter and other

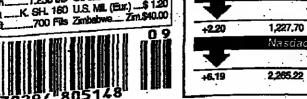
counts and could get 206 years in prison if convicted. Page 11. . Page 3.

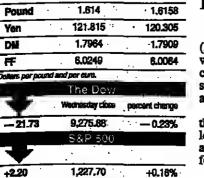
Pages 10-11. Pages 20-21.











Ukrainian Smugglers Find Poland Irresistible

By Michael Wines New York Times Service

AVA-RUSKAYA, Ukraine --- When Andrei needs a few things from the market and he always needs a few things from the market — he does what a lot of people around here do: He climbs into the car and drives to

Once across the border, he drops by a few wholesalers and farms, buys as much butter, milk and fat as he reasonably can, and stuffs it all out of sight, under the back seat and in the trunk. On the way back, he stops at the Ukrainian border and slips the guard a few hundred hryvnias. Then he drives carefully home so as not to attract the police, who tend to want a few hundred hryvnias of their own. All that, and he does not even get to eat the

"I'm a middleman." he said the other day, huddling in his car. chain-smoking nervously. "I don't go for big business, and I don't carry mucb. I get less profit, but I think in our situation, the slower

you go, the more success you have."
When the going gets tough, the cliche goes, the

Things in Rava-Ruskaya are awfully tough. The economy is depressed; unemployment is endemic, and the town, a one-stoplight sort of place with a few aging storefronts and a two-lane main street, seems to have but one thing going for it: It is three and a half miles (5.6 kilometers) from much wealthier

And so it has become not just a smuggler's den, but a smuggler's kitchen, bedroom, garage and driveway. The main street is littered with minivans, small diesel trucks and, oddly enough, used British postal trucks, all preferred vehicles for hauling goods across the border. The bar attracts passing traffickers; the local grocery is laden with tins of Polish sprats, canned meat and sausages.

Not far from town, enterprising folks have converted a couple of empty buildings into warehouses - transshipment points for the tons of food, household cleaners, electronics and other sought-after items that cross the border daily.

The goods flood in for one reason only: They are cheaper in Poland and can be resold to Ukrainians at a huge profit. They are especially cheap if nobody pays the sky-high duties that the Ukrainian government has imposed on many goods to protect domestic competitors.

That is the basis for what officials politely call the "shuttle trade," much of it above-board and legal, but a healthy share also solidly rooted in bribery and

"Le busine (18 to 1.1.11) Al just to P land. The trainian government estimates that shuttle trade accounted for more than 11 percent of all imports in 1997, perhaps \$2 billion. A survey last October by the firm Socis-Gallep International concluded that about one in 35 adults is a shuttle trader, carrying on brisk commerce with Russia, Hungary and even Turkey, across the Black Sea.

But along Ukraine's depressed western border, the share of shuttle traders is dramatically higher. partly because there are so few other jobs and partly because it is so lucrative.

Some smuggled Polish products sell for as little in Ukraine as half the price of identical Ukrainian versions. U.S. consumer-products giants like
Procter & Gamble and S.C. Johnson, which have of making hribery an even more attractive option for



On the road between Poland and Ukraine: Smugglers do a brisk business in Polish goods brought across the border - many of them unofficially "duty-free."

factories in Ukraine and elsewhere in Europe, have complained loudly that they are competing against

themselves here — and losing.
For Andrei, who not only refused to give his last name but also refused to confirm that Andrei is really his first, smuggling is about the only way to exercise the skills he gained in the 1980s at the

Cooperative Teknikum in nearby Lviv.

There, he said, he earned the Ukrainian equivalent of an MBA, but could find no better job than assistant manager at a pizza parlor. With a small family to support, that was not enough.
"I calculated that I'd be able to earn more money

by myself," he said — and he has. These days, he said, he makes a daily run to Poland, usually for food that can be easily resold to the hordes of sidewalk vendors in cities like Lviv, but from time to time for stereos, televisions and even the occasional refrigerator,

SKED DIRECTLY how he manages to get such booty back over the Ukrainian border, Andrei was almost comically circumspect. "Take margarine: To bring in 200 kilograms" — about 410 pounds — "one has to pay \$1,100 in customs taxes," he said. "People look for opportunities to carry things, not paying taxes—
somehow to hide, to agree with the customs officers
that it can come through." But doesn't that require a
hribe? "I wouldn't like to talk about that," he said.

Others do, however. Under Ukraine's customs regimen, anyone can bring a small amount of food or other goods into the country — about \$75 worth — and pay a minimal duty. Above that, the fee

Trying to clamp down on the shuttle trade, the government doubled and even tripled duties on more than 600 consumer products last April.

traders and customs officers alike. These days, a gratuity to a customs officer runs from \$10 for a small-time trader like Andrei to \$2,000 for one of the tractor-trailer loads of goods brought in by

organized gangs.

Last year, the state customs service fired one in every 13 of its 17,000 customs officers for violations, mostly involving bribery and abuse of power. City police at the port of Odessa, another major smuggling center, arrested one customs of-ficer last fall who was found to have \$523 U.S. dollars and a "substantial amount" of Ukrainian currency in his pockets. The officer had been arrested just after lunch; most of his working day lay

Much of the take from bribery is said to flow up the chain of command. Only in November, German police arrested the director of customs operations for half the Poland-Ukraine border as he was withdrawing more than \$1.1 million in German marks from a German hank.

The official, General Oleksiy Chernyshov, was allegedly part of a smuggling ring that traded al-cohol and cigarenes. How the general managed to rise from third-class adviser, at two customs checkpoints, to head of the region in the space of several months is yet to be explained.

The government, aware that bribery is costing it hundreds of millions of dollars in lost tax revenues, is trying to break the links between customs officers and traders. Customs officers are rotated periodically to new posts to discourage familiarity with the people they inspect. Recently, the person in charge of the checkpoint near Rava-Ruskaya was moved to another town, leaving traders to wonder whether a crackdown is imminent.

Maybe it is. For now, Andrei is a fairly accurate barometer of how the traders are faring. "Look," he said, a trace of pride in his voice. "I've got a new

Middle East

Parched Times Ahead, Mideast Study Warns

By William A. Onne

RAMALLAH, West Bank -- The drought this winter could be a portent of an even drier future unless Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians work together to conserve shared water resources, an inter-

national panel of scientists has warned. With a population of 12 million in a region with slight rainfall, water supplies "are barely sufficient to maintain a quality standard of living," said Gilbert White, a geographer from the University of Colorado. He was chairman of a research group from the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and counterpart institutions from Israel, Jordan and the

Palestinian National Authority.

In what was described as the first major study of the long-term outlook for water supplies between the eastern border of Jordan and the Mediterranean coast of Israel, the report Tuesday said that even with strict management "the area's inhabitants will almost assuredly live under conditions of significant wa-ter stress in the near future."

Ancient underground aquifers are be-ing drained dry, while rains flow unused into desert gulches and rivers are diverted for water-intensive tropical agriculture, the researchers said. Watersheds cross political boundaries and can only be managed jointly, they said.

It is hardly news here that water is getting ever scarcer and the population steadily larger. Yet by drawing on data from disparate sources within and outside the region,

the study provides what its authors be-lieve is the first comprehensive analysis of regional patterns of water demands and supplies. At the same time it details feasible methods of conserving water

At least as significant as the content, participants said, was the political fact that this was the first serious study involving Jordanian, Israeli and Palestin-ian experts, all of whom urged their governments to work together on re-cycling waste water, developing efficient irrigation and using brackish water for industry and agriculture.

The unusual regional collaboration and the prestige of the U.S. Academy of Sciences should help assure that the study will guide the World Bank and other Western aid donors whose support is crucial to all three governments, the authors said.

Left carefully unmentioned were the consequences of a regional battle over dwindling water resources, But the concem was implicit.

"This is a very dry region and a very tiny region, with an importance out of all proportion to its size," said David Policansky, staff director of the project.

The 225-page study, which took more than two years, is itself rather and, scrupulously avoiding any hint of national consumbias or ideological advocacy and conperson.

centrating on regional research rather

centrating on regional research rather than policy prescriptions.

"While we were aware of many proposals for managing water supplies in the study area and neighboring areas, we explicitly refrained from making recommendations about these specific programs and political policies," Mr. White

The scientists acknowledged that their bope was to galvanize policy-makers into action and to remove the excuse that there is insufficient scientific information on which to base broad new

Members of the group met on Monday with the Palestinian leader, Yasser Ara-fat. The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities will be presenting its find-ings to its government and the Royal

This is a very dry region and a very tiny region, with an importance out of all proportion to its size.'

Scientific Society of Jordan is advising the government in Amman about the

The principal scientific contribution of the panel, some suggested, was to collate and verify existing research from varied sources on regional industry, irrigation, meteorology and geology.

There was a serious lack of regional information," Mr. Policansky said, pointing to a map of regional rainfall patterns that was drawn from different official sources and research institutes. This is quite basic. But until we did it there was nothing like it.'

The report stresses the limits of a landscape ranging from "sparse forest". to desert and "semidesert," cleaved by the "temperate steppe" of the Jordan Valley, itself increasingly dried out by upstream irrigation.

In 40 years, all fresh water in the region should be reserved for household. use, with treated waste water and saline water used to supply agriculture and industry, the researchers said.

As the largest and by far the most

osperous of the three, Israel accounts. for most of the consumption, the study confirmed. At 344 cubic meters (12,148 cubic feet), its per capita water use in 1994 was almost four times that of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, at 93. cubie meters a person.

Palestinian officials and Israeli environmentalists often point critically to this. disparity and to California-style watered lawns and capacious bathtubs that theyconsider irresponsibly profligate.
Yet the study showed that Israel's use

is only marginally greater than Jordan's. Jordan is poorer than the West Bank, yet consumed 244 cubic meters of water a

Spying Allegations Could Hurt TRAVEL UPDATE Disarmament, UN Chief Says

work for him, Mr. Annan took the same line he did in January, when leaks to the

news media first raised questions about whether U.S. agents had infiltrated Un-

scom to gather information for the Clin-

ton administration's campaign against

Although Mr. Annan denied respon-

sibility for the leaks, they were known to

have come from his inner circle of ad-

visers, as furious U.S. officials pointed

out. The incident revealed a deep rift

between Mr. Annan and the administration on how to deal with Iraq.

the substance of the Post report, except

in say Unscom was always fully briefed.

"We never comment on allegations in-volving intelligence matters," James

Foley, a State Department spokesman,

its core, and I'm not going in get into the

modalities about how Unscom did its job

or its mission," said David Leavy, a National Security Council spokesman.

We briefed all appropriate Unscom

Within the council, the five perma-

nent members are deadlocked over what tack to take with Iraq; the United States

and Britain demand a continued hard

line while Russia, France and China

One of the council's most urgent tasks

is to recommend how to complete the job

of determining whether Iraq has elim-

advocate greater flexibility.

15787597

"This is an intelligence operation at

said in Washington.

officials.

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U.S. officials declined to comment on

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

By John M. Goshko

UNITED NATIONS, New York -Secretary-General Kofi Annan said Wednesday that allegations that American intelligence agents used UN weaponsinspection teams as cover in spy on Iraq could harm the cause of disarmament. because suspicious governments might be unwilling to cooperate with UN surveillance of their arms programs.

There is no doubt that these allegations will make disarmament regimes or future efforts difficult if governments believe that this kind of thing can hapen," Mr. Annan said at a news conference where he was asked about the charges reported Tuesday by The Washington Post.

Citing U.S. government sources and documents, the Post said that for three years U.S. agents spied on Iraqi military activities under the cover of the UN Special Commission (Unscom) charged with locating and eliminating prohibited Iraqi weapons. The Post said the spying was done without Unscom's knowledge.

Mr. Annan's remarks were the only official comments to be made here about the Post article.

"I personally had no direct knowledge of these things," Mr. Annan said, noting that Unscom is not part of the UN bureaucracy under his control but reports to the 15-nation Security Council. Asked if he was "outraged" by the situation, he said it was up to the council

man of Unscom, and bis predecessor in under too great a cloud of suspicion to that job, Rolf Ekeus, may have known nothing about any spying.

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inated its weapons of mass destruction. to ''draw the right lessons. Baghdad, long distrustful of Unscom, He added that it was important to note that Richard Butler, the executive chair-lraq. Many at the UN feel that Unscom is

ever again function effectively. But no

would be a suitable substitute Correction Because of an editing er-

ror, there was an incorrect date in a front-page article Wednesday concerning the trade conflict over bananas. A World Trade Organization panel asked Tuesday night for more time to deliberate.

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THE WORLD'S GALLY NEWSPAPER

one seems to have any idea of what

Austrian Avalanches Scare Away Tourists

VIENNA (AP) — More than a week after deadly avalanches swept through a ski resort in the Austrian Alps, foreign

tourists are avoiding the region, leaving

record season, but a pair of avalanches that rolled through the villages of Gal-tuer and Valzur, killing 31 people, have scared away tourists, the Austria Press

Agency reported.

Ski lifts and cross-country trails in

Galtuer are to reopen this weekend, and

some tourists who have been coming to

the region for years are still booked, but

countless other reservations have been

canceled, Gerhard Walter, head of Gal-

In the fashionable resort of Ischgl,

down the valley from Galtuer, hotels

report vacancies. Cancellations have

also been high farther south in St. Ant-

JIDDA (AFP) -- Saudi Arabian Air-

lines, the region's largest international carrier, will add eight direct flights to its service by the end of May, the official SPA news agency said.

The new flights from the Red Sea port

nier's tourist agency, said.

New Saudi Flights

The Paznaun valley was enjoying a

it nearly empty during peak season.

WEATHER

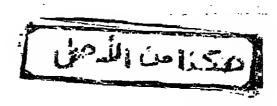


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iress:	cause of the high water table underneath it. It leaned fur- ther after the building was	Megeve Méribel La Plagne	120 290 130 230 185 285	D Good	Open Open Open	Heavy Var Var	242 242 242	Packad anov conditions 99% sid arge is open 105/110 lits open, superb conditions in strong sometime	Zermatt U.S. Aspen	120	250 Go	10G C	Open V		24/2	Wondedul aiding in warm weather is 100% open providing great skiing
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Sune	flew fewer passengers in Feb- ruary after it canceled more than 6,600 flights because of	Tignes Val d'isère	_	D Good	Open Open	yer Ver	24/2 24/2	Pistes refreshed with new snow Practically 100% open, pietes are in very good condition, though a little hand in the mornings	Val	213 132	420 Gas 235 Gas 150 Gas	od O	open P	· ·	23/2 23/2	sking 22 lits open with some light winds 190% open, just greet 30 lits open, very some new soon.
USPAPER	an I I-day pilots' protest. (Bloomberg)	Val Thorens Germany Germsch	200 250 46 150	O Good	Open Com	Var	292	Conditions are great throughout Althorn show on electric 25 Ris costs.	Winter Park Key1_U: Depth in or		186 Go		Open P	act.	27/2	19/23/the open, good conditions Technicis pietes, Pless, Plasture Rose

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U.S. Agrees to \$480 Million Deal to Preserve Redwoods

By William Booth

LOS ANGELES — A last-minute agreement reached after years of negotiation and rancor means that the largest stand of ancient the government to ensure that a towering forest, and the endangered species it harbors, can be preserved for generations to come.

The federal government and the state of California agreed Tuesday to pay Pacific Lumber Co. \$480 million for 10,000 acres of redwood forest along the Northern California

The Headwaters is a grove of moss-draped

ing lands, will now be set aside as a nature redwoods still in private hands will be sold to coho salmon, the spotted owl and a rare bird called the marbled murrelet.

The ancient forest was declared of such scenic and environmental value that Interior deal was the habitat plan, which may now be Secretary Bruce Babbitt compared it Tuesday used as a model in dozens of other battles to logging lands that they would have limited its Secretary Bruce Babbitt compared it Tuesday used as a model in dozens of other battles to to Yosemite National Park.

In addition to the forest purchase, the govemment and Pacific Lumber Co. also agreed other lands.

Pacific Lumber still owns some 211,000 ists trees that are as old as the millennium and as acres surrounding the Headwaters Forest that hushed and soul-stirring beauty, often comrestrictions. For example, the plan limits logthe woods of Northern California. In one clash

choke the salmon's reproductive runs.

This "Habitat Conservation Plan" is at the from cutting down trees. preserve, with public access, and continoe to heart of the Clinton administration's conbe home to endangered species such as the troversial and untested new approach to protecting threatened wildlife and habitats, particularly on private property.

Mr. Babbitt said the real importance of the

protect endangered species.

The fight over the Headwaters Forest, and coast, including the rarest of the rares thousands of acres of a primordial habitat known
on a 50-year plan to protect the endangered since to produce more than a decade of acrimonious legal challenges and clashes berimonious legal challenges and environmental activthe logging done by Pacific Lumber, comtween lumberjacks and environmental activ-

There were massive protests each year.

pared to a cathedral, given the quality of its ging on steep slopes and along stream courses last year, a young activist for the environmental to protect the water from runoff that could mentalist group Earth First! was crushed to choke the salmon's reproductive runs. death when he tried to stop Pacific Lumber

> The agreement was finally reached late Monday, after negotiations collapsed Friday night. Talks were broken off and the deal appeared dead when John Campbell, president of Pacific Lumber, said the government annual tree harvest below the point that Mr. Campbell said was fiscally viable.

But over the weekend, federal and state officials approached Mr. Campbell and his team at Pacific Lumber again. Officials offered to "clarify" the Habitat Conservation Plan in a series of side letters that Mr. Campbell said eventually convinced him that his tall as 20-story buildings. It is a place of it will continue to log, but now with more with thousands of young activists arrested in timber company could cut enough lumber to

POLITICAL NOTES

Buzz Follows Mrs. Clinton

NEW YORK - The would-be constituents in this seen-it-all city looked for a clue Wednesday from the could-be candidate, but Hillary Rodham Clinton had nothing to say about the possibility of running for the Senate. Instead, she talked at a poblic school about art education and ignored the clamor.

Her audience didn't, she was met by raucous applause, 'She's cool, she's not snotty, she's like a real,

regular person," said Tiffany Mance, 14.
Mrs. Clinton made no reference to her possible candidacy. Polls taken a few weeks ago gave her a commanding lead in a hypothetical match-up with Rudolph Giuliani, the mayor of New York, for the Senate in 2000.

Bot another statewide poll released Wednesday by Marist College's Institute for Public Opinion showed a narrowing of the potential race. It found Mrs. Clinton favored by 50 percent of voters with Mr. Giuliani the choice of 46 percent — a gap equal to the poll's margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points. (AP)

Gun-Control Bills to Face Off

WASHINGTON - The escalating controversy over efforts by cioes to bold firearms manufacturers accountable for gun violence has moved to Capitol Hill, as two Democrats introduced a bill to regulate weapon safety and a Republican readied legislation to curtail lawsuits against gunmakers.
Congress's latest battle over guns came as a dispute

within the firearms industry over how to respond to such lawsuits threatened the job of one of its leaders and put at risk a recently won detente among pro-gun groups.

Both developments stern from suits by local govern-ments seeking damages from gun manufacturers and dealers and more recent efforts by state legislators, encouraged by the National Rifle Association, to preclude such suits. The Democrats' bill to regulate gun safety, introduced by Senator Robert Torricelli of New Jersey and Rep-

resentative Patrick Kennedy of Rhode Island, would require the federal government to regulate the design, manufacture and distribution of guns. The bill to curtail lawsuits is being prepared by Rep-

resentative Bob Barr, Republican of Georgia, an NRA board member and leading foe of gun control. (WP)

Walling Off Social Security

WASHINGTON - The Republican leadership is debating a plan that would force Congress to end the longstanding practice of using Social Security money for other purposes — but not necessarily right away. Needing money to pay for tax cuts and additional spending, House and Senate leaders Tuesday discussed allowing Congress to dip into Social Security retirement funds for the next several years but then walling the retirement system's money off from the rest of the federal budget.

The idea of weaning the Congress from reliance on Social Security's tooney has more support among House leaders than among their counterparts in the Senate, many of whom favor putting the retirement system's funds offlimits immediately, Republicans said.

Ouote/Unquote

Roger Salazar, a White House official, describing the scene as the White House press bus crashed into the plane that was to ferry them home after the president's vacation in Utah: "The entire bus, in unison, shouted 'Whoa.' I doo't think I've ever seen this before." (Reuters)

Show Me the Money, **Bush Tells Supporters** By Rick Lyman New York Times Service . AUSTIN, Texas — Under the his first and second campaigns for

hottest sun of the year and with a governor of Texas. stiffening wind whirling the leaves Reporters from us into a frenzy, George Bush and his wife, Laura, sat on patio chairs beseveral dozen reporters from Texas York Times by someone who had and almost made the announcement attended. A CNN camera crew was

the formation of an exploratory committee to raise money and help him decide whether to, sometime this The problem was that the news year, become a bona fide candidate had already kind of seeped out. Some for president of the United States.

Let the money flow. The message was a signal to those who had been urging Mr. Bush, the consistent front-runner in national has overcome any lingering doubts about the effect of a bid on his

which he has declined to elaborate, some of his initiatives to begin windexcept to say that they are behind him, ing their way through the system, and that he is now a faithful imsband: "I began to get more comfortable and family man—said that he had no fears that opponents would unearth began to feel more comfortable inskeletons to derail a campaign. "Had there been skeletons that inside my soul and my heart."

would have destroyed a candidacy, you'd have found them in 1994 or 1998," Mr. Bush said, referring to

Reporters from national networks hind the governor's mansion before which was provided to The New that everyone has been waiting for. halted at the gate. This announce-The two-term governor and son of ment, the governor's people said, the former president said Tuesday was for Texas media only, in keepthat, no, this was not it, but he would ing with a pledge the governor made officially announce—on Sunday— last year that, when he made his presidential decision, he would let his fellow Texans in on it first.

of the governor's top advisers and campaign aides were quoted, anonymously, in reports in the past two weeks as saying that such an an-nouncement was imminent. And last polls, to seek the presidency that he week, one of them, Mr. Bush's chief political consultant, Karl Rove, told The New York Times on the record family and would approach the cam- that Mr. Bush intended to make the paign with a mind toward winning. announcement — a statement that "I am convinced, and Laura is the governor later told Texas re-



Governor Bush and his wife, Lanra, discussing his presidential campaign plans in Austin, Texas.

shape, supporters will be able to convinced, that our love for each porters was premature.

donate money to a potential Bush other is strong enough and our fam.

Mr. Bush said that he came to his campaign. Only then, the governor donate money to a potential Bush campaign. Only then, the governor said, will it become clear whether ends, he and his wife will begin a

> part of the effort, except perhaps to or is not running for president.
>
> send out a fund-raising letter. He said he would stay in Texas, tending would keep him from running band. On the other hand, I love my to business through the end of the would be if his exploratory efforts husband, and I'm very proud of him, During that time, he will continue to huge yawn," he said.

Now, Mr. Bush said, the process hold occasional briefing sessions will be divided into two parts.

Beginning Sunday, when the exMayor Steve Goldsmith of Indianawith his policy advisers, including months that he was concerned that ploratory committee takes official polis (domestic policy) and Provost daughters. Barbara and Jenna, Condoleezza Rice of Stanford Uni-

onex is strong enough and our ramily is close enough to take whatever life brings," Mr. Bush said,
And the 52-year-old governor — only delayed letting the world in only delayed letting the beautiful in the beautiful in the world in only delayed letting the world in only delayed letting the based on the high lev

current legislative session to May. were greeted with "a great thud, a

Mr. Bush had been saying for his wife and twin 17-year-old would find the rigors of a campaign too invasive. Now, he said, that concern is behind him.

Mrs. Bush said that she, too, had come to terms with it.

'What I hesitated about is the ugliness that we all see of political life," she said. "George and I lived through the 1992 election with his and I know he'd make a great pres-

Several Republicans Defend Law on Independent Counsel

By Frank Bruni New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Several House Republicans have challenged dependent counsel. an assertion by the Clinton administration that the independent coun- Republican of South Carolina, sel law should be permitted to fade into extinction, using a hearing on

After a deputy attorney general, Eric Holder Jr., told a House panel Tuesday that the administration ment itself had powers and avenues considered the law so irredeemably flawed that it should be scrapped when it expires at the end of June, he would be willing to spell out the flawed that it must be allowed to die. Representative George Gekas, Republican of Pennsylvania, wondered of official wrongdoing in a more Holder "can be remedied by surwhen it expires at the end of June, publican of Pennsylvania, wondered

would leave the country in.

"T'm worried sick about the prospect of it dying without a developed inechanism in place," Mr. Gekas, chairman of the House subcommittee on commercial and administration in the country in

handled in the absence of an in-

Representative Lindsey Graham, joined Mr. Gekas in that call, telling Mr. Holder, "I think you owe that to the country. I think you owe that to

testimony before the House subcommittee that the Justice Departof investigation that rendered the independent counsel statute moot,

tive law, said during the hearing. He Governmental Affairs Committee demanded that the administration that the Independent Counsel Act commended the appointments of five 1978, in the aftermath of the Wa-

sociated Press reported from Wash-

["Beware of the lawyer with one case, with an endlessly deep pocket to finance it and no time limit in which to get the job done," Robert Bennett told the committee.

1996 re-election campaign.

Mr. Gekas and Mr. Graham served on the team of House members who prosecuted Mr. Clinton

luctant to allow the statute to expire June 30 when its legal mandate runs out. Mr. Lieberman said he was disappointed by the administration position that the law is so scriously He said the criticisms cited by Mr.

gery as opposed to termination."]
Mr. Holder's remarks to the House panel reflected a remarkable turnaround by Attorney General Janet Reno, who in the early days of [On Wednesday, the lawyer who represented President Bill Clinton in the Clinton administration was one of the strongest defenders of the independent counsel law and who re-

present a proposal explaining precisely how allegations of official wrongdoing would be credibly should be allowed to die. The Ascriticized for not naming a counsel to investigate questionable fund-raising by Democrats in Mr. Clinton's

into extinction, using a neutron of the law's future to pose pointed questions about what other safeguards congress."

The country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguards the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe that to fice a safeguard the country I think you owe the country I think you owe the safeguard the country I think you owe the c partiality in calling for an end to the statute that gave Kenneth Starr the

> on a variety of fronts and allegations, none definiovely proven. Democrats on the House subcommittee railed about what they portraved as the excesses and abuses of Mr. Starr, and many of them said that his conduct had revealed inherent

> authority to investigate Mr. Clinton

problems with the statute. Outside the subcommittee, the elimination of the independent counsel law appears to enjoy considerable bipartisan support.

The law was initially passed in

investigate the president and other

high-ranking federal officials. The independent counsel statute was reauthorized repeatedly over the next two decades, although there was tinkering with its specific provisions and it was allowed to lapse from 1992 to 1994.

The hearing Tuesday was the first that the House held to examine the future of the law.

Members of Congress focused in large part on the many witnesses and targets of these inquiries whose bank accounts had been cleaned ont by legal fees and whose lives had been shattered, with Representative Jay Dickey, Republican of Arkansas, drawing special attention to the effect of so many investigations by independent counsels in the president's bome state.

"It's been a devastation," he said. "It's been like a tornado has hit, like Sherman's march to the sea," a reference to a scorched-earth campaign in the American Civil War.



CROSSWORD

25 It's in the winds

26 Capital on the 60th parallel

and others

34 Popular 90's

40 Squarely 41 Tension

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94 Sellers of ACROSS 27 Short stop? at Gaff or boom as Mack with a horn 10 Bogus Love" rock grp. as Designer's need services? 42 "How to Murder Your Wife" star

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Taboo* singer

producing 42 Actor James 47 Placido's "that" Spiff (up)
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SE Old TV's " **se** Spring to Vacation spot



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Away From Politics

• Five Muslim women have filed a religious discrimina-oon complaint after losing their jobs as security guards at Dulles International Airport in the Virginia suburbs of Washington. The women alleged that they were dismissed because they refused to remove head scarves, a requirement of their faith. (AP)

·A male university professor who smuggled a poor 15year-old boy from Honduras into Florida and had sexual relations with him for almost a year became the first person convicted under a new U.S. law barring "sex tourism" targeting minors. (Reuters)

 A teenager who flashed a laser pointer into the eye of a sheriff's deputy has been convicted in Virginia of assault and battery and sentenced to six months in jail. (AP)

• The death toll linked to contaminated hot dogs and deli meats from Sara Lee Corp.'s Bil Mar Foods in Michigan has reached 14, the second-deadliest U.S. outbreak involving listeria bacteria (AP)

In Tomorrow's IHT

reisure

Travel deals, art exhibits, restaurant reviews and movie guides are just a few of the things you'll find in the Leisure pages. Written with the international reader in mind, this column offers a broad range of options on how to spend leisure time, regardless of where in the world you may be traveling.

Every Friday in the International Herald Tribune.



THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Beyond Bus Diplomacy,' Little Hope of an Early Settlement on Kashmir

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON — The "bus diplomacy" that brought the leaders of India and Pakistan together for a tension-defusing meeting last month was warmly welcomed by U.S. officials and applauded by those who fullow the situation most closely in Washington.

But none of them sees any chance for an early solution to one of the world's most intractable regional disputes: the persistent and often-bloody crisis over the disputed region of Kashmir, where India and Pakistan have fought twn wars in a halfcentury. Some hope for nice-sounding diplomatic cover to fix a temporary lid in place; others

do not expect to live to see a lasting solution.

And while U.S. pressure helped bring the two leaders together — edging them to a more comfortable remove from a feared nuclear arms race - the chances of a significant U.S. role in unraveling the Kashmir knot appear smaller than

"The United States, in my view, does not have a role to step in and do the same kind of mediation role they did in the Middle East," Representative James McDennott, Democrat of Washington, said last week, hours after returning from India.

"I don't think that's in the cards." Still, he said he was more optimistic than at

any time in a decade of visiting the region.

The trip that Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee took in a deep-golden luxury bus to meet his Pakistani counterpart, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, in Lahore, reaffirmed a budding, if still

Mr. Vajpayee, embracing Mr. Sharif, called it a "defining moment." Some have likened it to President Richard Nixon's historic visit to China in 1972. The leaders vowed in a joint declaration, to "intensify their efforts to resolve all issues, including the issue of Jammu and Kashmir."

Yet even as U.S. diplomatic efforts helped unite the leaders, the South Asians now say they will deal with Kashmir on their own. Pakistan had long insisted that the dispute required international resolution. Whether a bilateral approach will bring progress is unclear.

India considers Kashmir an integral part of its

territory; it has dug in its heels there, investing heavily in development and security. It has seen little reason to offer flexibility. But the ouclear tests in May by India and Pakistan shook more than the ground above the devices that were tested.

The risk of miscalculation may not have increased, but the cost of miscalculation has,"

light mistake could lead to a catastrophe."

Kashmir specialists — who gathered in Washington to discuss the topic: "Kashmir: A Stalemate Forever?" — were less pessimistic than that title implied. But they agreed that any real solution is years away.

"Some people are going to have to die first," said one of the specialists, Sumit Ganguly of Hunter College in New York—not violently, he hastened to add, but of old age, before hatred and distrust born during the bloody days of India-Pakistan partition can be forgniten.

Hasan-Askari Rizvi, a teacher of South Asian studies at Columbia University, said the summit meeting in his hometown, Lahore, had helped build the beginnings of confidence, but hard issues would have to wait.

"I don't think there will be any meaningful dialogue on Kashmir in the near future," said Mr. Rizvi, author of a book on the Pakistani military,

"but they won't go to war over Kashmir."

The issue is complex. Along with the majority Muslims and minority Hindi, there are sizable numbers of Buddhists and other ethnic groups; part of historical Kashmir is occupied by China. The beautiful, mountainous region arouses

people have disappeared in Kashmir since 1990 after arrests by the police or armed paramilitary forces, the human rights group Amnesty International said Tuesday.

So the two sides will need to build a structure of smaller agreements before turning meaning-fully to Kashmir, said the specialists, brought together by Brookings and another research institute, the Center for Strategic and International

That, they said, might allow time for the coming-to-age of young, self-confident Indians and Pakistanis more keen on profiting from crossborder commerce than in keeping alive old ethnic divisions and national hatreds.

Teresita Schaffer, once the top U.S. diplomat for South Asia, said the Lahore declaration wisely contained the seeds of agreement on "win-win" issues, like the year 2000 computer problem, with uncontroversial solutions.

As with the thorny and often-postponed "Fi-nal Status" talks on Jerusalem, the Kashmir question might best be perched on a back burner for the indefinite future while confidence grows, she and others said.

'Kashmir may be the last of the issues to be

said Stephen Cohen, a Brookings Institution fellow who has written books about South Asia. "A infiltration have kept those hot. As many as 800 may be the Wailing Wall," he said, every bit as intractable an issue as the Jerusalem edifice also known as the Western Wall. "But I'm fairly confident the two countries have found ways to

manage Kasnmir.

The two leaders have agreed on measures of transparency and restraint designed to reassure nervous friends and neighbors. They plan to exchange information on missile tests and military exercises. U.S. officials, most energetically for the state of Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, had fervently lobbied for just such progress.

In what has become almost a mantra of State Department policy, Washington has long held that the Kashmir dispute must be resolved bilaterally, with no U.S. role unless both sides ask for one. But the South Asians also appear to be for one. But the south Asians also appear to be bowing to forces in each country wary of the American giant. "We don't need interpreters," one Indian official said just before the Lahore meeting. "We speak the same language."

American specialists, in any case, differ on what role U.S. mediators could usefully play. Mr.

Cohen favors a full-time special envoy for South Asia, as Dennis Ross is in the Middle East. But Mrs. Schaffer said she saw no productive ground at present for "a major U.S. diplomatic effort."

Indonesia Sends Troops to Ambon

AMBON, Indonesia - The Indonesian military, struggling to contain re-ligious unrest on the island of Ambon, has sent in hundreds of reinforcements with orders to shoot rioters on sight and has dismissed the local police chief, the armed forces chief said Wednesday.

But the violence continued despite the presence of the reinforcements. Soldiers fired warning shots in front of a church in coastal Ambon to disperse a Christian mob and blocked hundreds of Muslims who were marching toward the Chris-

In the capital, Jakarta, about 2,000 Islamic students gathered ontside the military's headquarters and accused soldiers of supporting Christian rioters. They chanted "holy war" and "God is

About 90 percent of Indonesia's 210 million people are Muslim, making it the world's most populous Islamic state. A large proportioo of Ambon's population, however, is Christian.

In a leadership shake-up, the military chief, General Wiranto, dismissed the regional police chief, who has been handling the religious clashes that have a mosque oear Ambon. The military shoot troublemakers.

General Wiranto, like many Indonesians, uses just one name.

At least 161 people, including two soldiers, have been killed since the violence erupted in January in Maluku Province, once known as the Spice Islands, according to Information Minister Yunus Yosfiah. More than 400 people

bows and arrows and gasoline bombs. The latest unrest in Ambon, Maluku's

ing in a Protestant church. Angry Christian men then tried to stop a car helieved to be owned by

Soldiers fired in the air and blocked Muslim refugees, some carrying knives, sided with an ethnic group from their who tried to approach the Christians region. from a cearby mosque.

On Monday, five people were killed

claimed at least 38 lives in the past week. denied that its officers shot four Muslims as well as allegations that it had taken sides in the fighting.

About 1,400 troop reinforcements arrived in Ambon, 2,250 kilometers (1,400 miles) east of Jakarta, on Tuesday and Wednesday. Their cumbers bolstered hundreds of police and soldiers already

have been injured.

Mr. Yosfiah said rioters burned or vandalized 18 churches and 18 mosques,

At a welcoming ceremony, the Maluku police chief, Colonel Karyono, told the new arrivals to remain neutral. 134 vehicles and 3,544 houses.

Tens of thousands of people fled their homes as rival mobs fought with swords, between the twn bodies in conflict," he

Hours later, in comments to reporters, capital, broke nut after unidentified as- General Wiranto said without elaboratsailants stabbed a Christian refugee stay- ing that Colonel Karyono would be re-

General Wiranto also said that nne battalion from neighboring Sulawesi Island would be withdrawn from Amboo to curb speculation that its troops had

He pledged that hundreds more soldiers would be sent to Ambon in the next when Christians attacked worshippers at few days and said that they had orders to



Young Muslim women crying Wednesday outside military headquarters in Jakarta during a protest over recent killings of Muslims in Ambon.

"I ordered the troops to shoot at their them," General Wiranto said.

demned the military's handling of the peacefully to a nearby university.

"The soldiers are involved. They are feet so as to paralyze them, but not kill taking sides," said one protester, who identified himself by the single name of The student protesters in Jakarta con- Reza. The protesters later marched

Uganda Vows To Hunt Down **Tourist Killers**

KAMPALA, Uganda — President Yoweri Museveni vowed Wednesday that Uganda would pursue the rebels who murdered eight tourists and capture or kill them.

'We shall follow them, we shall try to capture them and if we don't catch them, we shall kill them," Mr. Museveni said. He said more troops would be sent to the remote area where Rwandan rebels murdered four Britons, two Americans and two New Zealanders.

Mr. Museveni spoke at a news con-ference after U.S. FBI agents arrived in Kampala and as Ugandan troops pursued operations in the country's southwest, crossing the border into the Democratic Republic of the Congo to hunt ... down the killers.

The president said the Ugandan anthorities were partly responsible for the killings because park rangers knew of the dangers but did oot tell the military.

"The park authorities should have foreseen this problem and asked for sup-port," he said. "We therefore regret this mistake. On the one hand, it is the criminality of the Interahamwe, but on the other hand, there was also laxity oo our own people in respect to guarding these won-derful visitors of ours." The Interahamwe are armed Hutu extremists.

The dead were among more than a dozen foreigners the rebels kidnapped in their fight to undermine Rwanda's Tut-

si-led government. At least six other tourists escaped, but three men were still missing. Their na-tionalities were not known. The bodies of the victims were still being identified Wednesday.

The tourists were killed after being kidnapped by the Hutu extremists in the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park. A British diplomat said most victims were hacked to death.

One of those to have survived Monday's dawn attack, Mark Ross, de-scribed late Tuesday how two Americans were the first to die after one of them was raped. Some of the survivors were due to go

the central hospital in Kampala oo Wednesday to identify the bodies of the victims, whose murder has caused international ootrage. The 14 tourists were seized when a

band of more than 100 Interahamwe militiamen, Hotu "death squad" youth forces held partly responsible for Rwanda's 1994 genocide of up to 800,000 people, swept down on their

The rebels were armed with machetes, AK-47 assault rifles and spears. They gave the first secretary from the French Embassy in Kampala, Anne Peltier, who was among a group of tourists separated out and left behind, a note expressing the

insurgents' objectives.
"The Internhamwe are not happy with the American and British because they have preferred to support the Tutsi ethnic minority against the ethnic Hutu majority," the message said.

2 Intel Executives **Among Victims**

PORTLAND, Oregon - A pair of Intel Corp. executives who first traveled to Africa together on their honeymoon returned to the rain forest in search of adventure and

gorillas, only to be brutally killed in gormas, only to be ortifally killed in a rebel kidnapping.

Rob Haubner and Snsan Miller were the only Americans stain when Rwandan rebels stormed

their camp Monday in Uganda. Eight foreign tourists were killed and six others rescued.

Mr. Haubner and Ms. Miller had

worked for the computer chip giant since the mid 1980s and were based in Oregon. He was worldwide director of customer support; she was a senior trade show man-

Mr. Haubner and Ms. Miller were on a two-week vacation, their third trip in as many years to Africa with a goal of catching a glimpse of

the mountain gorilla.

"They loved to travel around the world," said William Calder, an Intel spokesman. "We're shocked and snuned."

Japan Moves Closer To Sales of the Pill

The Associated Press

TOKYO - A Health Ministry committee approved the sale of birth-control pills Wednesday, news reports said, clear-ing the way for the pill's sale in Japan almost four decades after its first use in the West.

The pharmaceutical committee will give its recommendation to the ministry in June, meaning the pill could be available by an-turn, the reports said. A Health and Welfare Ministry spokesman refused to comment.

The approval took place as women's groups voiced outrage over a ministry decision in January to approve Viagra, a treatment for male impotence, after deliberating just six mooths. An application to approve birth-cootrol pills had languished in the ministry for nine years.

Doctors in Japan, who say they are worried about side effects, have resisted the pill. But women's groups say doctors don't want abortions to decline. One in five pregnancies in Japan ends in abortion. Doctors get about 100,000 yen (\$830) for the procedure, making the operation a lucrative one in a country where the national health program caps fees for most other

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10 Years On, a Call for Tiananmen Square Redress

By Elizabeth Rosenthal

BEIJING - With the 10th anniversary of the June 4 killings in and around Tiananmen Square fast ap-proaching, a group of victims of the military crackdown and their families have renewed calls for the Chinese government to reassess the incident.

' Led by Ding Zilin, a professor whose 17-year-old soo was killed, the group is asking for a new investigation to clarify who ordered soldiers to move against student demonstrators as well as for a law on compensation for the victims, who they say oumber in the tens of thousands.

Chinese leaders in the past year have made clear that they see oo need for a review, that the government's actions on June 4, 1989, were correct.

Bot in a letter it sent Wednesday to China's senior leaders and its legislature, the June Fourth Victims Dialogue Delegation said that the government position "in no way" represented popular opinion. "We can oot accept it," the group wrote.

The Tiananmen Square anniversary which was released by Human Rights ber of dead or wounded. Instead, they comes four months before celebrations in China, a group based in New York. justify the government's actions by of the country's 50th anniversary. Of- "Thousands of families lost loved calling the student protests an anti-

Trananmen Sonare. Some of those involved in the surdent-led protests of 1989, now 30something academics and businessmen, have been visited by local publicsecurity officers. They were admon-ished not to make trouble this year.

■ Protests to the Legislature

In their letter to China's president, prime minister and two other senior leaders, the group of self-described victims of the June 4 crackdown demanded a dialogue and a full accounting for "one of the most brutal peacetime massacres" in the 20th century, The Associated Press reported from

Beijing.
"The June Fourth massacre seri-

ficials seem determined not to let un- ones. Tens of thousands were injured pleasant memories cast clouds over an or disabled. This was the most ruthless elaborate celebration of Oct. 1, act of peacetime violence in China's of Shenzhen, police took Miao Xike

ears, and we still cannot s loved ones, 'Rest in peace.' '

"When can their spirits rest in beace?" she asked. "When we get back justice for that day." Aside from herself, Miss Ding said. the petitioners included 17 people whose relatives were killed and two

who had been beaten. The suppression of the democracy demonstrations that drew a million people to Tiananmen Square in the spring of 1989 remains one of the most divisive issues in Chinese politics.

Chinese leader died two years ago, his successors, fearing they would be blamed, never have allowed an open Democracy Party asking that a conously damaged China as a country and investigation into the crackdown or stitutional commission and court be set a people," said the letter, a copy of provided credible figures on the num- up.

government rebellion. Meanwhile, in the southeastern city

planned to involve hundreds of thou-sands of people and take place in Miss Ding said: "It has been 10 after the dissident announced he was starting a political party.

The Miao announcement and June Fourth Victims Dialogue Delegation petition are part of a number of actions timed to accompany the annual session of the Chinese legislature, which is to begin Friday.

The Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China, a group based in Hong Kong that reported on Mr. Miao, listed other appeals sent to the legislature. These included a letter from 44 dissidents in the northeastern province of Liaoning Deng Xiaoping is believed to have demanding an end to a penal system ordered the crackdown. Although the that allows detention without trial for up to three years and an open letter from members of the outlawed China

Lagos Mobs Kill CHINA: Budget to Call for Record Deficit At Least 5 Police In Pair of Raids

The Associated Press LAGOS — At least five Nigerian policemen were killed Wednesday when rirack and a police station in the commercial capital of Lagos, police sources said.

The Oyagbo barrack was badly damaged, and the Adakara police station, about 16 kilometers (10 miles away) was burned down.

Peter Ooh, a police officer from the Adakara station, said that attackers had dragged many of his colleagues from the building and killed five of them.

It was not immediately clear what triggered the attacks, but it appeared that they had been carried out by people apposed to the victory tired general and former military ruler, in the presidential election on Saturday. On Monday, attackers de-

stroyed twn other police sta-

tions Lagos, killing one person and injuring four others.
Police in riot gear fired live ammunition into the air Wednesday to disperse both the attackers and hundreds of terrified pedestrians caught in the melee in the Moshin neighborhood, where the police station was attacked, on the northwestern fringes of Lagos. The pedestrians ran for cover with their hands in

rise in spending that would not be matched by rising tax revenues in a slack

growth probably was considerably lower, but analysts generally agreed that targets for this year were not unrealistic.

Continued from Page I

Mr. Zhu's speech says the proposed 1999 deficit will be "lower than the internationally accepted alarm level" of oters attacked a police bar- 3 percent of gross domestic product. "This is a pretty low level, and they can sustain it," said Jim Lam, chief representative of ABN-AMRO Asia in

But some were concerned that China

rowing from policy banks, the fiscal deficit could be much higher, even 4 percent of GDP," Mr. Lo said. Whatever the deficit ratio, persistently weak government revenues poin-

economy.

ted to a "tight situation" in the future, a diplomat said. They've got about two years in which they can continue to use fiscal

"If you include government spending

on sustaining the state sector via bor-

might he pumping money into the economy recklessly.

Chi Lo, head of China research at HSBC in Hong Kong, said the proposed deficit, while low, represented a sharp

BRIEFLY

Albright Observes Thai Reform Efforts

secretary of state, Madeleine Al-bright, encouraged Thailand on Wednesday to stay on the path of democratic and economic reform while fighting illegal drug commerce

Before traveling to the capital, Mrs. Albright met with young wom-en rescued from a life of prostitution by a nongovernmental agency that offers them education and jnb training.
"I think that we are learning that if there is going to be improvements in democracy, in economic transforma-

to be very much a part of it," Mrs. Albright said.

She was to meet Thursday with Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan and Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai. (AP)

BANGKOK — The visiting U.S. India Has No Plan To Test New Missile

NEW DELHI - India has no immediate plan to test-fire a longer-range version of its Agni ballistic missile or any other missile, the Press Trust of India quoted a senior government official as saying Wednesday.

"We are oot going to test-fire any missile in the near future," the news ageacy quoted Brajesh Mishra, the principal secretary to the principal

principal secretary to the prime minister, as saying. Earlier the United News of India said tion for the people, that women have the government was expected to test the

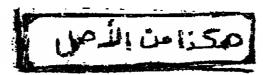
Agni II missile from an island off the

state of Orissa next week. (Reuters)

the air to demonstrate they

ainc Stuff

being



L ganda Von To Hunt Do Tourist Kill

The state of the s

Kashmir

DEVOLUMENT TO SEE SOMETHING done, just tell some human beings it can't be done. Make it known that it's impossible to fly to the moon, or run a hundred metres in nine-pointnine seconds, or solve Fermat's Last Theorem. Remind the world that no one has ever hit sixty-two home runs in a season. Stuffed eighteen people into a Volkswagen Bug. Set half the world free. Or cloned a sheep. Dangle the undoable in front of the world: Then, consider it done.

THE WENT SOFTEVENDENT



London Gallery Fingers Works That May Be Nazi Plunder

LONDON — It's not the most popular or the most valuable work in the collection, but all of a lead to the restoration or compensation for any LONDON - It's not the most popular or the sudden Eugene Delacroix's powerful "Christ on the Cross" has become a must-see painting for visitors to the National Gallery.

The radiant canvas has become an object of attention this week because of its historical

Or, more precisely, its lack of one. It is one of several dozen important works that the National

museums in England have said they would investigate any works acquired since 1933 that did not have a clear and Nazi-free chain of ownership.

By Steven Lee Myers

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Although NATO remains poised to act, the United States and its allies have no intention of launch-

ing punitive strikes against Yugoslav military targets at this point despite an army buildup and renewed fighting in

Rosovo, according to administration of-

Yugoslavia's deployment of heavy

By R. Jeffrey Smith

: PRISTINA, Yugoslavia - Hashim

Thagi, a senior commander of the rebel

Kosovo Liberation Army, was named to

head a provisional government estab-lished by the province's ethnic Albanian

majority, eclipsing the role played by Ibrahim Rugova, a pacifist long sup-ported by the United States.

. U.S. officials said they bope to per-

spade Mr. Thaqi, 29, to embrace noo-

violent politics during a scheduled visit

by Kosovo's ethnic Albanian leaders to

Washington, during which the Clinton

According to an announcement by the

Kosovo Liberation Army late Monday,

Mr. Thaqi will be the prime minister of

dominant republic of Yugoslavia.

Rebel to Head Ethnic Albanians

administration will seek backing of a not recognized by Yugoslavia or Serbia, Western plan to end the year-old ethnic he was overwhelmingly chosen presum in Kosovo, a province of Serbia, the

an unofficial interim government estab-lished by ethnic Albanians to rule until a to Serbian rule.

ficials and NATO diplomats.

The effort follows a conference in Washington in December at which 44 nations approved a set of guidelines for handling art looted by the Nazis.

owners," said Janice Lopatkin of the Holocaust Educational Trust, based in London. "But we wouldn't be asking museums to go through the process if we didn't suspect that there are works stoleo by the Nazis in prominent collections around the world."

On Monday, the National Gallery listed 120 works of dubious provenance it had acquired since 1933, the year Hitler's National Socialist Party Callery now fears might have been looted by the Nazis in the 1930s and '40s.

Nazis in the 1930s and '40s.

As part of an international effort to help restore

Nazi plunder to its rightful owners, several major

Nazi plunder to its rightful owners, several major

Nazi plunder to its rightful owners, several major

first to do so.

special police officers, as well as re-

newed attacks, clearly violate the cease-

fire agreement brokered last autumn be-

tweeo the Yugoslav government and eth-nic Albanian rebels fighting for Kosovo's independence, officials said.

zation said at the time that it would

enforce the cease-fire with military

But the officials, who spoke on the

peace accord is signed and elections are held for new members of a Kosovo

Albanian delegation at talks with

Yugoslav officials in France last month

and opposed signing the peace accord. The talks ended without agreement, and

the United States and its European allies_

Mr. Thaqi's appointment, which was

approved by other ethnic Albanian polit-

ical leaders who took part in the talks,

marks the end of a two-year slide in

influence for Mr. Rugova. In elections

1992. Bot Mr. Rogova, a literary critic

who rose to prominence as a dissident

during the Communist era here, was

accused of weak leadership that helped

France to resume talks oo March 15.

Mr. Thaqi served as bead of the ethnic

Parliament, perhaps later this year.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organi-

Its list includes two Monet landscapes and works by Rubens, Picasso and Pissarro.

from Washington.

ditions of the agreement with ambushes

and kidnappings.
With the rebels seemingly as reloctant

as the Yogoslav government to move

round of talks last week in France, the

case for NATO air strikes also was

cease-fire become moch more grave.

The museum listed the Delacroix crucifixion because little is known about its whereabouts during the Nazi era. The 19th-century French painting is believed to have been in the collection of a German Jew until 1932, when it was sold at auction for a surprisingly low price. It turned up next in 1975 in the possession of a Paris art dealer, who sold it to the National Gallery the following

When the Third Reich fell in 1945, Allied soldiers found large caches of priceless art that had been snatched from private homes and museums all over Europe. Some works were returned to their prewar owners, but thousands of pieces passed into the world art market.

In recent years, museums and governments from around the world.

In the second years, museums and governments from around the world.

If a British museum were to determine an art term to track the Nazi plunder. British museums work in its collection had been stolen by the Nazis, have agreed to provide the results of their investigations to the Art Loss Register, an inter-

national group that tracks stolen works and tries to return them to their owners.

The National Gallery has pledged to investigate the history of each object on its list and to try to establish a definite chain of possession to make sure it is not holding property stolen by the Nazis. But even a painting clearly determined to have been stolen by Nazis probably would not be eturned to its owner.

British law bans the return of moseum exhibits to their place of origin. That's why the British Museum still proudly displays the disputed Elgin Marbles, carvings that were chopped from the Parthenon in Athens and shipped here in the early 19th century. British museums are full of objects

sation to the owner.

BRIEFLY

War Crimes Suspect Taken III in Croatia

ZAGREB - The former commander of Croatia's notorious World War II concentration camp was rushed to a hospital for unspecified reasons on the eve of his trial for crimes against humanity, the government news agency said Wed-

nesday.

Dinko Sakic, 77, who had been extradited from Argentina in June, was to go on trial Thursday at the Zagreb district court for alleged offenses committed during his term as commander of the

Jasenovac camp in 1944.
It was unclear whether the trial would be postponed.

France to Try Noriega For Money Laundering

PARIS - A French court plans to try the former Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega and his wife, Felicidad, in ab-

sentia on charges of drug money laun-dering, officials said Wednesday. The trial, scheduled to begin June 10, will focus oo the alleged laundering of 15 million francs (\$2.5 million) in 1988-89 through some of France's leading

Mr. Noriega is serving a 40-year prison term in the United States for money laundering and drug trafficking. (AP)

Swedish Child Aide Held for Many Abuses

STOCKHOLM - A Swedish daycare worker arrested for suspected child abuse may have assaulted up to 10 children in acts recorded on hundreds of pornographic videos and photographs, Swedish authorities said Wednesday.

The 22-year-old unemployed man was arrested in Orebro on suspicion of repeatedly raping his girlfriend's five-year-old son. The case has shocked the country and undermined confidence in Orebro's social services. (Reuters)

Britain Raises Stakes In Gibraltar Dispute 👨

LONDON - The British government announced Tuesday it wanted to obtain the right for Gibraltar residents to vote in European elections, in an initiative certain to raise the hackles of Madrid.

The initiative comes at a time of tense relations between London and Madrid over Gibraltar. The conflict erupted in January over fishing rights in the waters surrounding the peninsula. (AFP)



Rexhep Qosja putting on his glasses after he received an award Wednesday in Tirana, Albania, for his literary and academic work. Mr. Qosja, one of the ethnic Albanian delegates to the Kosovo peace talks in France, said he was confident they would sign a deal offering autonomy.

■ Humanitarian Aid Arrives

"We're back to square one again," a Pentagon official said Tuesday, "NATO Humanitarian aid groups sent condonia during a lull in fighting Wednesday to help thousands of ethnic Alarmy sergeant were killed Tuesday, according to the Serbian Media Center. has pulled out the 'we're ready to act' card way too many times." He said NATO could still resort to force, but only if the Yogoslav violations of the fighting, The Associated Press reported "What we don't have at this point is a from Pristina, the Kosovo capital. pre-agreed level of violence at which NATO will respond," a NATO dip-lomat in Washington said. "It will be judged when it happens."

Hundreds of people have been camped in the open this week because of the fighting. Yugoslav Army and Serbian rived to beef police forces have fired on suspected border area.

positions of the rebel Kosovo Liberatioo

Army in the past several days.
In some of the heaviest fighting since voys to Kosovo's border with Mace- U.S.-led peace talks were suspended last No new fighting was reported by

Wednesday afternoon, but a 15-vehicle convoy of armored vehicles and trucks carrying troops and heavy weapons arrived to beef up Yugoslav forces in the

greater role in the rebels' fight for Kurdish trial for treason blamed Abdullah Ocalan for



REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE

Invitation for Expressions of Interest

for Pre-qualification to acquire 51% of the shares of ELEC-TRA SARL for the production of Electricity and Desalinated Water and, Concession Contract for the distribution of electricity, water and wastewater treatment facilities.

The Government of Cape Verde (GOCV) has commenced a privatisation programme to introduce private sector participation in the electricity, water and wastewater sectors. As a part of this programme, the GOCV has begun the legal and regulatory reform of its electricity and water sectors, with the objective of creating a transparent environment for the sustainable development of electricity and water supplies in all nine islands of Cape Verde. High priority is being given to the attraction of private sector investment and expertise in power generation and distribution on all islands, desalinated water production and distribution on four islands, and the operation of wastewater treatment facilities on two islands.

The GOCV invites expressions of interest from strategic investors for the acquisition of 51% of the shares of ELECTRA's production facilities, with a long-term concession contract for the distribution networks of electricity and water services, to submit Pre-qualification Documents in order to be considered for selection as Pre-qualified Applicants. The Municipalities' share ownership of ELEC-TRA is 12.3%. The GOCV will retain 100 shares and Golden share rights. The remaining shares will be offered for sale to employees of ELECTRA (5%) and approximately 31.67% will be offered for later sale to the local public and Cape Verdean emigrants. Pre-qualified Applicants will be afforded the opportunity to respond to a Request for Proposals (RFP) in respect of the sale of the Governmentowned shares (51%) in ELECTRA. Applicants may be electricity and water utilities or consortia led by an electricity

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the Pre-qualification Document by e-mail or down load from the Internet (www.cvprivatisation.org), or by written request to:

E-mail: pare.adm@mail.cvtelecom.cv Programa de Apoio as Reformas Económicas

Mr. José Goncalves, Administrator

Av. OUA - CP 266-A Praia - Cape Verde Islands Phone: (238) 62 33 80 Fax: (238) 62 33 60

The Pre-qualification Document must be accompanied by a bank draft payable to "Tesouro Publico" in the amount of 20,000 Euros. The Pre-qualification Document will be due by 16:00 hours on Monday, March 29, 1999. Eligible bidders may contact the above address for clarification or any questions regarding the Pre-qualification process.

BERLIN: Spy Files Are Sore Point

have asked the two sides to return to toward a peace agreement at the last

Continued from Page 1

Karsten Voigt, the coordinator of U.S .-German relations for the German Foreign Ministry, said it was ironic that in the eyes of many Germans, the United States is aligning itself with former Communists and their sympathizers who have been trying desperately to cover up the truth about their past.

"We simply find it hard to understand how a great country, which says it stands for freedom, behaves like those in Germany who are trying to block access to the files," Mr. Voigt said. "If this perception is allowed to continoe, it could create a lot of problems for our relationship."

Senior German officials said they suspect ruled that East Germans could oot be prosthat the United States is hiding information on the Stasi's penetration into West Germany. During the 40-year history of East Germany, officially called the German Democratic Republic, between 20,000 and 30,000 West Ger-Stasi. With language posing no obstacle, it easily infiltrated almost every sector of West German society, including business, politics, academia, labor unions and the media.

Yet, German officials who have been allowed to see what they call "sanitized" versions of the files in Washington have been allowed to copy the names of only 1,500 agents who operated in the West. The pos-sibility that many Stasi collaborators in the West are escaping retribution for acts of betrayal — with the perceived consent of the United States - has stirred resentment among East Germans who were forced to endure the pain of confrooting their complicity with the repressive Communist regime. In 1995, Germany's constitutional court

sources said any new title for Mr. Bayik did not mean he was a direct replacement for Mr. Ocalan but was recognition that he now had a

ANKARA - Kurdish rebels in Turkey

have taken steps toward choosing a new leader to replace Abdullah Ocalan, a Turkish

the Kurdish Workers Party had appointed a

senior commander, Cemil Bayik, as the

Mr. Ocalan, who founded the rebel move-

ment and led its armed campaign for 14 years,

was seized in Kenya last month and flown to

Turkey for trial oo treason charges. Kurdish

newspaper said Wednesday.

guerrillas' "high authority."

The new

for the Stasi could be prosecuted. U.S. officials said turning over the archives mans are believed to have worked for the to the Germans would expose many friendly agents still operating in Western nations to retaliation by their victims. The United States is also believed to have informed many individuals that they are cited in the files to reduce their vulnerability to blackmail, and possibly even to have hired some of the former East German spies whose services may prove useful.

Rejecting those arguments, Ernst Uhrlau, Mr. Schroeder's adviser on intelligence, said the German government did not understand wby the United States insisted on denying the Stasi files to a close ally, when the Russians presumably possess the same information.

'In the long run, it is unacceptable for the

likely double is in Russia," Mr. Uhrlan said. ecuted for treason, because they were operating under the laws of their country. But the court ruled that West Germans who worked

dealt a blow to the leadership hopes of Mr.

Kurdish Rebels in Turkey Move to Replace Ocalan

self-rule in southeastern Turkey.

start of the armed campaign.

Ocalan's brother Osman.

two years after the collapse of East Germany's Communist government. The true story remains a mystery, but U.S. officials have touted the heist or purchase of the files as one of the CIA's greatest triumphs.

German officials said their intelligence agency, the BND, located in Pullach near Munich, was thwarted from going after the archives when then-Chancellor Helmut Kohl, fearing an espionage fiasco could upset his plans for German reunification, banned any

a 1993 attack on a bus in which 33 unarmed Mr. Bayik, in his late 40s, was a fellow soldiers were killed. The assault broke a founder of the guerrilla group in 1978 and is unilaterally declared Kurdish cease-fire. "There was never a full cease-fire be-

alleged to have planned an attack on the aper Milliyet said a meeting of army in 1984 that is regarded as marking the cause the army continued operations." Semdin Sakik told a court in the southeastern He is believed to have been fighting in the mountains of Turkey and northern Iraq since former No. 2, Mr. Sakik was snatched by then, unlike Mr. Ocalan who lived in Dam- Turkish forces in northern Iraq last year ascus for 18 years until late 1998, when Syria shortly after he defected from the group threw him out under pressure from Turkey.
Milliyet said Mr. Bayik's promotion had following a break with Mr. Ocalan.

A soldier was killed and five injured in an

overnight Kurdish attack on a convoy on the main road between Diyarbakir and the nearby Another senior guerrilla commander on city of Mardin, security officials said.

German intelligence sources are convinced the CIA acquired the Stasi archives through a Russian connection, at a price estimated between \$1 million and \$1.5 million. The sources said the transaction is believed to have taken place in the first half of 1992 - nearly

clandestine activities in the East.

Differences between Germany and the United States over the fate of the Stasi files have magnified other strains between the two German government that relevant files are countries' intelligence agencies. German ofsitting in the United States and a possible or ficials said they were upset, for example, by

domineering U.S. attitudes that reflect the Cold War days, when American intelligence employed an estimated 25,000 people in West Germany and treated the country more as a

quasi-protectorate than a sovereign ally. In March 1997, Germany ordered a CIA officer to leave the country after he was caught trying to persuade an Economics Min-istry official to hand over information about high-technology deals with Iran. More recently, the Schroeder government became upset when the United States gave no warning it. was assisting Turkey in the pursuit and cap-ture of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan in Kenya — an event that sparked violent disturbances among the 500,000 Kurdish exiles living in Germany.

"The Cold War may be over, but we still share a lot of common goals and common threats that should make us see it is in our own interests to work together," a senior German official said. "But this can only be done on a basis of mutual respect, which we do not seem to be getting from Washington these days."

Dusty Springfield, Pop Singer, Dies at 59

By Stephen Holden New York Times Service

She died of breast cancer, her agent, Paul Fenn, said. She had an battling the disease since

Ms. Springfield had one of the perky early-Beatles-style love longest recording careers of any song. contemporary pop star, beginning in 1961, when she had the first of several hits with her folk-pop trio, the Springfields, and ending with her 1995 album, "A Very Fine Love." She had most her major hits in the 1960s, when she was considered the British equivalent of Dionne Warwick, and recorded only intermittently after the early

Her career was briefly rejuvenated in 1987 when the English

due the Pet Shop Boys (Neil Ten- Have to Say You Love Me" Threads and Golden Needles." nant and Chris Lowe), who were (1966), was a big belting tear-longtime fans, produced her top-jerker that reached No. 4 on Bill-Dusty Springfield, 59, the smoky-voiced English torch singer whose interpretations of pop ballads were suffused with a hearthroken wistfulness died heartbroken wistfulness, died ing post-disco theme song from Tuesday night at her home in the 1989 movie "Scandal," Henley-on-Thomas, west of Lon-about the Profumo sex scandal that had rocked the British gov-

> Ms. Springfield became an international pop star in 1964 with "I Only Want to Be With You," a

Other major 60s hits included "Wishin' and Hopin' (1964), and "The Look of Love," (1966), both written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David, the team that supplied Ms. Warwick with most of her early hits. Ms. Springfield's sultry rendition of "The Look of Love," from the soundtrack for "Casino Royale," anticipated the heavy-breathing eroticism of Donna Summer a decade later.

board's singles chart. The country-soul ballad, "Son of a Preachry-soll ballad, "Son of a Preacher Man," her Top 10 hit from 1968, woo new respect after being prominently featured in the 1994 movie "Pulp Fiction."

Dusty Springfield was born Mary Isobel Catherine Berna.

Mary Isobel Catherine Berna.

Mary Isobel Catherine Berna.

The Weinerianus, and London. In 1997, Mercury Records released three-CD, 77-song anthology of her career, "The Dusty Springfield Collection."

Harry L. Rossoll, 89, Drew Smokey Rear'

dette O'Brien on April 16, 1939 in Drew 'Smokey Bear'

form her own folk-pop group, the near his home in Atlanta.

Springfields, with her brother Mr. Rossoll, an illustrato eavy-breathing eroticism of and scored several English hits for the Treasure Island base when before breaking through in America with a top-20 single, "Silver committee in 1944.

After the 1970s, the singer led a peripatetic existence, living sometimes in Los Angeles, the Netherlands, and London, In

Hampstead, London.

While attending British convent schools, she discovered the service illustrator whose "Smokey Says" newspaper car"Smokey Says" newspaper carnussic of Peggy Lee, whose in "Smokey Says" newspaper car-timate come-hither style was a toons helped make Smokey Bear major formative influence. She almost as famous as Santa Claus got her professional start with an and an almost universally recog-Andrews Sisters-style group nized symbol of forest fire safety, called the Lana Sisters, but quit to died last Thursday at a hospital

Mr. Rossoll, an illustrator in the Tom and a friend, Tim Field. Pro-moted as a British answer to Peter, Atlanta since the mid-1930s, was Paul and Mary, the group had a in the navy in San Francisco, popular British television program drawing morale-boosting posters

2d Balloon Team Bides Its Time Over Africa

The Associated Press

GENEVA - The Swiss-British balloon team racing to be the first to circle the globe nonstop flew over North Africa on Wednesday and decided to hold off

entering the speedy jet stream winds.

At an altitude of 5,700 meters (19,000 feet) and a cruising speed of 65 kilometers (41 miles) an hour, the Breitling Orbiter 3 balloon crossed the Moroccan coast in midmorning of the third day of its undertaking before flying toward Algeria

The crew planned to hold off entering the jet stream to conserve its southern trajectory and avoid crossing over Iraq. Instead the team planned to fly over Saudi Arabia before hitching a ride on the fast jet stream winds, meant to speed the balloon

around the world in a target of 16 days.

The control center in Geneva said the team was in high spirits after a spectacular flight over the Aflas Mountains under a full moon Tuesday night.

The Swiss balloon lags behind a rival British one which teal as the form

British one, which took off Feb. 17 from Spain and is over Southeast Asia. It has broken all records for the longest time

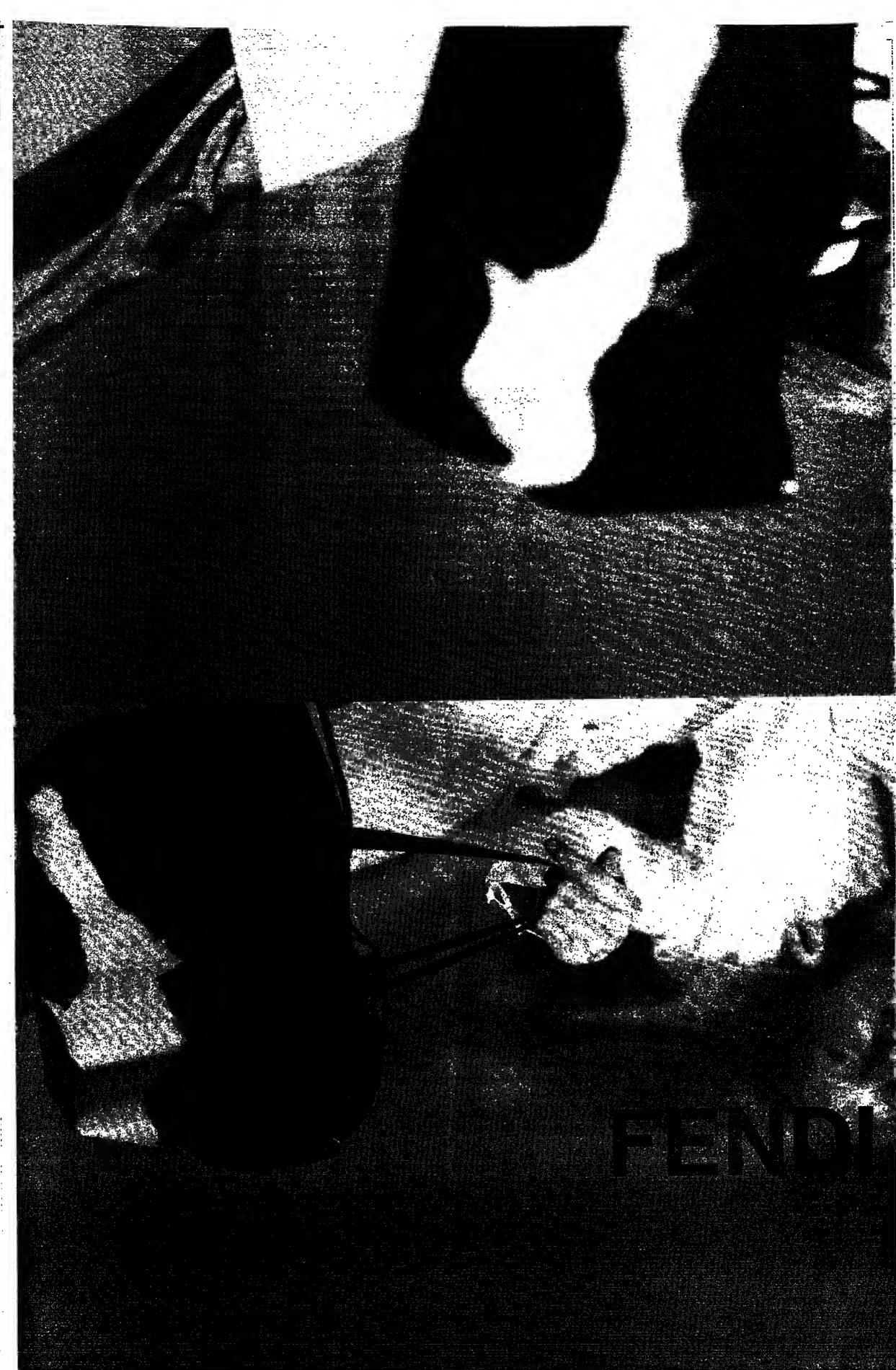
War Crimes Sun pero cancus

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ALT /Commentary

An Internet Quest For Talk Radio

By Fred Barbash Ington Post Service

TASHINGTON — Many of us listen to radio at night to fall asleep, or to go back to sleep when we wake up at 3 A.M., or to occupy our minds when neither of the previous two options is possible. For us, the Internet is a potential godsend. It offers talk

— news, discussion, high-toned material — from around the world. What it brings is far superior to anything available via conventional broadcast in Washington.

For example, the BBC's "Up All Night" program — the best English language all-nighter in the world, which I came to love when living in London — is available by broadcast in Perior but is accessible on the BBC Washington. broadcast in Britain but is accessible on the BBC Weh site with some great software called RealAudio, sold by

RealNetworks, and with technology called streaming.

It's only a "potential" because, while sleeping with a radio is perfectly normal, curling up with a PC or a laptop, tethered to a phone line, plugged into the wall, is just plain sick. If you're doing that, seek counseling. I, for one, want no part of it, and neither does my wife.

And, not oow in possession of a modern laptop, I dread the ignominy of buying one just to listen to the radio — \$2,500 for a radio.

So recently I set forth on a search for a better way to listen in bed to the amazing array of nonmusical broad-casts, oews, discussions, interviews, good clean talk, available on the Web, certain that by now someone had come up with just the right device.

Going with my best instincts, I tried the simplest thing first: I put a tape recorder in front of my computer's speakers and taped the program, trying hard not to listen. I took the tape recorder to bed. This was fine — for an hour -- and then the tape ran out.

URELY, I thought, there must be a better way. I had read of the MP3 music player, a Walkman-type device that plays music downloaded from the Internet. I went looking for a similar gizmo for voice radio, and sure enough, the people at RealNetworks directed me to the antible mobile player, sold by Audible.com.

Jonathan Korzen, the media-relations manager there. explained how this shirt-pocket-sized device works. It's simple, First you buy it (\$199 or \$99, depending on what else you agree to purchase at Audible.com). Then you download the special software that lets it decipher the service's audio files.

Then you go ooto www.audible.com, select from many choices of programming — it might be someone reading.
The Wall Street Journal or columnists reading their columns or books and specific programs (such as "Fresh, Air" with Terri Gross, at \$6.95 a mooth).

Mr. Korzen says it takes roughly eight or nine minotes to download an hour of talk on a 56K modem (which means it'll take considerably longer for most people, because few obtain real 56K speed). Then, using the free software, you transfer the file to the mobile player, which takes roughly two minutes. Then you can listeo oo a headset (there's oo speaker), either at home, in your car, while working out or, yes, in bed.

Simple, like the man said. There were only two problems besides all the rigmarole: I don't like paying and, while they offer many interesting programs, the BBC's are not among them. You can listen to the BBC on the Internet, but its security features prevent you from downloading it, saving it and

listening when you want.

So I called the BBC. They don't intend to make programming available for download, said Simon Rahamim, a spokesman for BBC Online. Rather, the BBC is trying to get U.S. broadcasters to carry portions of the BBC World Service, which is now a pain to find on shortwave.

HE BBC is not the only programmer reluctant to allow downloads, which you can store, versus streaming, which you can't, and the RealAudio software people are reluctant to press them. One of the things that's boosted RealAudio, said Philip Rosedale, chief technology officer at RealNetworks, is the certainty among broadcasters that the software cannot be used. without their express cooperation, to copy programming as a file. They worry that someooe might start distributing these files by e-mail.

This fear among broadcasters is comparable to the concerns of the film industry when VCRs hit the market and to the panic the music industry is cow showing as computer users obtain digital recordings from the Web for nothing or next to nothing.

But it isn't the same. If I download Celine Dion, she's probably losing the \$15 I might pay for her CD. If I download "Up All Night," the BBC loses nothing because I have on other access to it. Bot it gets something: my loyalty. Indeed, even if British listeners chose to download "Up All Night" rather than listen to it oo their radios, the BBC would lose nothing because they don't take advertising on Britain's public network.

Very shortsighted! Very inconvenient, ton. Mr. Rosedale of RealNetworks assures me that hardware makers will soon be marketing small devices - perhaps

dedicated to live Internet broadcasts, perhaps just glorified cellular phones — that I can take to bed with me.

Bot, he said, he's "actually a fan of putting the laptop by the bed," so he can look up stoff oo the Internet. And I have to admit, after hearing of the possibilities, that I'm on the verge of buckling, too.

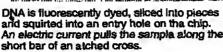
All I ask, before I do, is that someone design a laptop

"that's soft, a pillow-top rather than a laptop, or one in the shape of a teddy bear.

I'd feel better about the whole thing. Fred Barbash, a business editor at The Washington

Post, can be e-mailed at barbashf@washpost.com.





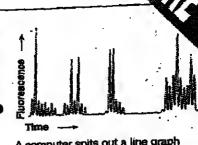


Voltage is switched, pulling a minute portion of the sample down the long bar of the cross. tragments by size.

of an individual.



Laser is shot at the long bar, making tha fluorescent pieces of DNA glow as they pass affectively reading the genetic code as it zips



A computer spits out a line graph where peaks show the distinct feature of an individual's ganetic makeup.

By Patterson Clark/The Washington Post

Law Officers Look Forward to Crime 'Labs' on a Chip

By Robin Lloyd lungton Past Service

AMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Dan Ehrlich foresees a day when cops oo the beat will bave a gadget that could produce a unique genetic profile quickly from DNA in blood, saliva or semen at a crime scene.

Mr. Ehrlich and his colleagues at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research are among several groups across the United States working to perfect a reusable "lab" ou a microchip that could do that in two minutes.

The idea is that the chip, which fits easily in the palm of the hand, could be combined with miniature chemistry kits to prepare the sample and a laptop computer to receive, graph and check data against growing state or federal databases to identify — or clear — people who may have left genetic trails

"So far, DNA technology has been the tool of 'offer of proof," "said Lisa Forman, who runs a research branch of the National Institute of Justice, which started doling out \$5 million in grants this year to speed DNA chip technology. "You have a suspect, and so you screen for something. We'd like to see it he used as an investigative too!: 'We know we have hiological evidence at this scene. Who's here?"

The DNA chips are the result of a marriage between molecular hiology and the precision engineering technologies that gave rise to Silicon Valley.

The forensic chips represent just one of dozens of techoologies and applications that arose from the insight a few years ago that microchips could serve as ultrafast platforms for genetic, chemical or electrical "tweezers" to pick out tiny, telling pieces of DNA.

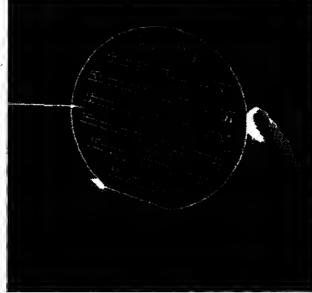
Drug companies are trying to use the chips to develop pharmaceuticals compatible with patients' genetic idiosyn-crasies. Health-care providers are looking forward to using chips for on-the-spot diagnoses of viruses, bacteria or generic

Some scientists with the federally funded Human Genome Project hope the chips will speed their effort to crank out the 3 hillion chemical components that make up human DNA. And administrators of forensic laboratories in Virginia and Florida are interested in using the chips to speed operations and eliminate backlogs at their traditional laboratories.

A portable lab for forensic applications still is about two

To create the devices to be used in the field, researchers have scaled down a highly reliable approach to reading off brief repeating sections of DNA, called short tandem repeats, or STRs, found at landmarks along the serpentine genetic

The sites are found within sequences thought to be "noncoding"— they reveal nothing about a person's hair or eye color, height, weight, predisposition to disease and so forth. But they are well-known to DNA researchers who have found that individuals inherit two "stutter patterns" per landmark. Schimalzing and Lance Koutny, can get results on 10 DNA



Samples containing DNA would be put on this disk for the sequencing work used to identify individuals.

 say, a four-letter sequence repeated four times from the father and six repeats of the sequence from the mother.
 Those patterns can be used to confirm paternity, but a pair of repeats st one landmark is hardly enough to identify someone with certainty. For that, the FBI has set a standard of a combination of 13 specific landmarks or sites along human DNA as statistically sufficient for a "unique" identification

THE WHITEHEAD group's gadget works by mixing a DNA sample with slicing, copying and fluorescent labeling chemicals inserted into an ultraslender channel etched oo a plastic microchip. Tiny electrodes attached to the channel's ends pull the molecular fragments, naturally negatively charged, past a laser that makes the pieces glow and detects the sequence of the DNA's chemical "letters" as they pass through.

The results, a count of the number of stritter repeats at the DNA landmarks, could be submitted via a laptop and modern to a central computer. A match would be sought in a state database or the FBI's new centralized database, which has 231,235 genetic profiles of coovicted offenders that have been submitted by labs in 42 states.

Chips made by two of Mr. Ehrlich's colleagues, Dieter

landmarks in two minutes. His researchers expect to expand the results to the FBI's 13 in the next months. The technology is much cheaper and 10 to 100 times as fast as than the DNA 'fingerprinting' techniques that were used in the OJ. Simpson murder trial, Mr. Ehrlich said.

still, the chips would not prevent "chain of custody" mishaps like those that dogged Mr. Simpson's prosecutors. Evidence still would be collected by fallible humans before it made it to a briefcase laboratory at the scene. But they would make the path from collection to analysis a lot shorter.

Every U.S. state oow has a DNA database law that requires

convicted sex offenders to submit a blood sample for genetic profiling, said Steve Niezgoda, who is with the FBI's Comprofiling, said Steve Niezgoda, who is will the FBI.'s Combined DNA Index System, the agency project to gather state, data into a national database. Many states require DNA testing of all convicted felons; the Louisiana legislature recently passed a law that forces testing of those merely arrested and accused of felooy sex offenses.

So far, the FBI project has yielded 583 hits, results that have provided investigators with a lead that otherwise might not have been developed.

have been developed.

IVIL-LIBERTIES watchdogs are alarmed by the creation of DNA databases, in part because some lab-oratories keep biological samples indefinitely. What if that noncoding DNA turns out to be genetically revealing? "Anything that makes it easier and cheaper to create a DNA

databank is dangerous because it will increase the impens to DNA-test." said Barry Steinbardt, associate director of the American Civil Liberties Union. "We don't oppose specific technologies, but what we are concerned about is the creation of the data banks."

The forensic microchips probably will accelerate the pace at which data are added to state and federal databases, end backlogs at labs and help solve more cases. They also raise the specters of forced DNA sampling of all citizens and of genetic

The Whitehead researchers are wary of the brave new world that could result from their work.

"The scary aspect of this, from a civil-liberties point of view, is that normal citizens leave this kind of sample around all over the place every day." Mr. Ehrlich said. "Every place you leave a hair behind or perhaps just the rim of your coffee cup becomes 100 percent accurate of where you were, when."

Richard Mathies, whose laboratory at the University of California at Berkeley is doing competing research, is an adviser to the National Haman Genome Research Initiative.

The grouping, part of the National Institutes of Health, has been encouraging the U.S. government to adopt DNA legislation to protecting the rights of individuals. Bot Mr. Mathies also was vocal about the good to be derived from the growing technology.

"The other goal, of course," he said, "is to get the great potential of this technology, so it's doing good for the health of the people in this country.

Adobe's New Layout Software Aims at Challenging Quark

By Lawrence M. Fisher. New York Times Service

AN FRANCISCO — The publishing world has loog been split between integrated systems from companies such as Atex and SII, which typically run on minicomputers or mainframes, and desktop systems such as Quark and PageMaker, which ruo on Macintushes, personal computers and PC-based servers.

And on the desktop, the world is largely split between Quark Inc.'s QuarkXPress and Adobe Systems Inc.'s PageMaker. This week, Adobe introduced what is referred to by ocarly everyooe in the publishing industry as the Quark-killer. Adobe executives do oot use that term themselves, but they make oo bones about attacking Quark in its core market for high-end

page-layout software. Rather than an update of Adobe's familiar Pagemaker program. InDesign is an entirely new product, the company's first in five years. Adobe is positioning InDesign as a bridge between large systems and desktops. It is designed both to stand on its own in smaller installations and to be bundled with

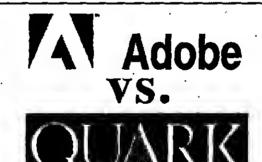
integrated systems for larger pohlishers.

InDesign is scheduled to ship in late spring, with versions for the Macintosh, Windows NT and Windows 98, at an estimated retail price of \$699. Adobe is shipping an updated version of PageMaker, version 6.5 Plus, available March 15, at

partly the product's visibility that prompted an overture from greater manipulation without exiting the program. InDesign's Quark last year. When Adobe's shares hit a four-year low, user interface is identical to that of Photoshop and Illustrator, Quark Inc. floated an informal, and unwelcome, offer to huy so it will look and work in familiar ways. the сотралу.

said. "They saw our stock price as low, so why oot try to already used Photoshop and Illustrator. "The target market for knock it out with a preemptive offer?"

was the combination of the stock price and existing products, oot InDesign, that attracted his attention.



"I had forgotten about InDesign wheo we did the offer, which doesn't mean pleoty of people didn't remind me about it," he said. "There are a couple of features it has that are really neat, and a lot of features that have been in QuarkXPress for some time. I assume they're going to do a good job, but I doo't think we're going to lose market share.'

WO CHARACTERISTICS distinguish InDesign from previous page-layoot programs, one of which will be evident to any user, the other more important to de-

\$499, or \$99 for upgrades from previous versions.

Customers have been testing so-called alpha and beta versions of InDesign for a year. John Warnock, the chairman and chief executive of Adobe, said he had oo doubt it was picture or a graphic to some generic format, and it allows much

Jay Vleeschhouwer, a computer-industry analyst with Mer-"They see a freight train coming their way," Mr. Warnock rill Lynch & Co., said most publishers, including Quark shops, nock it out with a preemptive offer?"

InDesign is one which Adobe has a lot of familiarity with and But Tim Gill, the founder and chairman of Quark, said it which is already using its other products," he said. "Adobe as the combination of the stock price and existing products, will not be coming to these high-end users as an unknown quantity by any means."

Equally important, InDesign was written using modern modular software design, unlike PageMaker and Quark, whose architectures date to the 1980s. The core program occupies just 1.6 megabytes, a small fraction of the computer memory demanded by most desktop applications, and all major functions are performed by plug-ins, as on a Web browser.

THIS MEANS that Adobe can add or upgrade portions of the program easily hut, more important, that third parties can easily add value to inDesign by creating

custom plug-ins.
Doo Oldham, the president of Digital Technology International, in Springville, Utah, a leading system integrator for the newspaper industry, said: "I can as a developer use the components of InDesign and integrate it very tightly into a true newspaper work-flow system."

'The thing that Adobe has done that Quark doesn't is to open their development environment to us," he added. Both the plug-in capability and the integration with Photoshop and Illustrator appeal to Jeffrey Fulton, the technology director for Time Inc.'s business information group, which has been testing InDesign for a year. With Quark, yoo had to do all your

image work before you went to page layoot, he said.

'People are just fed up with QuarkXPress, so that they're ready for something really new,' he added.

But analysts said Adobe needed developers such as Digital Technology if it was to meet Quark head-on. Mark Walters, editor of "The Seybold Report on Internet Publishing," said: Because Adobe doesn't have all of the pieces yet, they oeed

to get these other developers to support them."

He added: "The plug-in architecture is critical to attracting the mass of developers that have been following Quark. The product has a strong feature set, but by itself that isn't

enough."

Suzanne Soygg, an analyst with Dataquest Inc., said good technology was not enough either. "The higgest issue for Adobe is the matter of standards," she said. "Once you commit to a program like QuarkXPress, companies and people are reluctant to change, just because of the pain factor. Just because a product is best doesn't mean people will change."

TECHNOLOGY INDEX

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Technology stock indexes	around the won	ld:	
- North America	Tuesday close	Pct. change previous week	Pct. change, year to date
* Pacific Exchange Tech	456.72	285	+1.67
S&P Tech Composite	1,174.34	32	+0.53
Europe Morgan Stanley Eurotec	627.62	4365	+2.81
Asia * Topix Electric Source: Margan Stanley, Bloombe	1,571.28 ang News		+1.86

For technology articles from the past week, see TribTech on the IHT's World Wide Web site at http://www.iht.com. Articles include:

New Engines Can Improve Web Searches, Feb.25 Y2K Bug is Deemed World Crists, Feb. 25

Speed Lane on the Cyber-Hyghway to Be Tested, Feb. 25 Acer to Stop Retail Sales in the U.S., Feb.25

 Philips Pursues VLSI to Broaden Chip Range, Feb. 27-28
 MCI WorldCom to Pursue Major Expansion in Asia, March 2 · Job Cuts at Baan Lead to Big Loss, March 3 Mannesmann: Potential Big Winner in Olivetti Deal, March 3 Alcatel to Buy Network Firm Xylan, March 3

To reach ThibTech editors or to comment on IHT tech coverage, send e-mail to triblech@int.com.

BERTELSMANN SELLS ON-LINE: Bertelsmann AG opened its electronic-commerce service, BOL, in Britain on Wednesday, putting the German media giant into direct competition with Amazon.com to sell books in Europe's biggest on line market.

Bertelsmann says that on-line retailing in Europe, where revenue was just one-eighth of U.S. levels last year, is set to explode. It projects that sales of books.

CDs and software will total £175 million (\$283 million) this year, including £110 million in Britain.

The start of the British site, accessible at www.bol.com, follows the beginning of service in Germany and France last month and will be followed by sites for the Netberlands and Spain. (IHT)

IS 'BE' TO BE OR ...?: In January, Be Inc., a tiny software company, briefly came into focus at the Microsoft antitrust trial when a Microsoft executive asserted that Be could soon be a major competitor — no matter that Microsoft controls 90 percent of the market for PC operating systems and Be virtually none.

Be's founder and chairman, Jean-Louis Gassee, is planning to test Microsoft's hypothesis. Be will license its operating system free for a year to any manufacturer willing to install it and make it an option for buyers to select the first time they switch on their computer. Mr. Gassee said he was discussing the idea with at least one tiny hills that users will run up major PC maker. (NYT) news or buy another service.

BRIEFLY

LONGER LIFE FOR PLAYSTATION: Sony Corp. probably will keep making the original Play-Station even though it introduced a successor to the best-selling video-game console this week, according to an executive at a U.S. company that supplies components for both machines.

"They're both going to be shipping for a long time," said Bruce Entin, vice president of worldwide marketing at LSI Logic Inc., a maker of customized microchips. Sony said it had oot set a date for phasing out the four-year-old PlayStation.

NEW WAY TO PAY ON TRE NET: The Wall Street Journal began selling a "daily edition" on-line this week for \$1.95, becoming a guinea pig for a new transaction oetwork on the World Wide Web.

Never mind that you can pick up a paper copy of the Journal for 75 cents, or that you can subscribe to the Internet edition for a full year for only \$59, about a third of what a Journal print subscription costs.

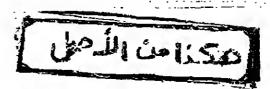
Morningstar Inc. will use the transaction system to sell individual research reports on mutual funds, and the Industry Standard, a trade magazine, plans to sell

data it collects on the Internet economy.

The companies say the new transaction method finally is a way for them to ring up "micropayments," iny hills that users will run up each time they download



Mouse Phone, a handset-in-a-mouse made by Alphaomega Soft of Japan, is due to go on sale in its domestic market next month.



INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999

INTERNATIONAL



Gucci's peasant dirndl with leather top and fur coat.

ury goods company.

If designer Tom Ford is this good, shouldn't Bernard Arnault be offering more for a French hands. hostile takeover of the flash-Moet Hennessy Louis Vuit-

And if Ford and Domenico De Sole, Gucci's president, were to be driven out by the boardroom battle, wouldn't

MILAN FASHION

a partnership," an emotional Ford said backstage, after taking the bravos for his show and receiving raves from

De Sole, an Italian-born, American-trained lawyer,

creating a collection — let

coasting, he returned to the essence of Gucci: the skin strong design team to design trade. Leather came out every which way: as a body-hngging jacket; as ridged hutging jacket; as ridged hut-

ite hippies had morphed into ultra-sophisticated peasants. sleeves gathered at the wrist, thong belts and skirts as jew-el-rich velvet diradls, low-

Ford's favorite bell-bottoms, as skin-tight lace pants throbbing with desire—some even with mink tails dangling at the ankles. Over the top? That's the point and the joke — and the point and the joke — highthe reason that rock chicks

high-heel boots were genry ruched like Odeon movie tinguish themselves as Byhlos is the essential probtheater curtains. Embellishment included velvet roses.

By Raymond Bonner

New York Times Service ZAGREB, Croatia - Serbia and the Yugoslav president, Slobodan Milosevic, are generally considered the pariahs in the Balkans, but according to an international report, the verdict on Croatia and its president, Franjo Tudiman, is equally harsh.

"There has been no progress in improving ic" but "in reality authoritarian." respect for human rights, the rights of minor-ities and the rule of law" in Croatia, the lomats said, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said in the recent report, which has not been made public.

cumlocution, is filled with damning details about repression of the media by the Croatian government, about its lack of cooperation with the international war-crimes tribunal in The Hague, and above all about its harsh treatment of ethnic Serbs.

their homes here during the war have been allowed to return. Most fled when the Croatian Army carried out its own "ethnic cleansing" during military operations against Serbian-controlled areas in August 1995.

"It is harsh, but it is not an exaggeration," Andreas Stadler, the deputy Austrian ambassador here, said about the report, which Madeleine Albright last August Inher meet- cars and expensive clothes, the middle class hands of Serbian separatists.

ber countries of the organization. The organization, which includes the United States. is charged with overseeing the development of democracy in former Communist countries.

Mr. Tudjman has been elected twice, most recently in 1997, but the State Department, in a human-rights report made public last week. described Croatia as "nominally democrat-

United States, which is the most powerful criticism of Mr. Tudjman, in part for strategic Beyond that summary, the report, which is reasons: His cooperation is vital to the astonishing for its lack of diplomatic cir- NATO-led peacekeeping operations in neighboring Bosnia. Currently, for example. Apache belicopters for use in Bosnia are being unloaded from an American ship and assembled on the Croatian island of Krk.

There are also concerns that criticizing the country too harshly will give ammunition to Only a small percentage of the approx-imately 300,000 ethnic Serbs forced to flee tian Democratic Union, who are in a fight with moderates over who will succeed Mr. Tudjman, 76, as party leader. He has incurable stomach cancer, and his condition bas worsened in the past two weeks, dip-

lomats here said Tuesday. The delicate diplomatic quandary was re-flected in the visit here by Secretary of State fabulous wealth that they flaunt with flashy

was delivered in late January to the 54 mem- ings with Mr. Tudjman, Mrs. Albright de- is quickly being squeezed into poverty. livered a tough message about the need for Croatia to become more democratic, to comply with the Dayton accords that ended the of the Serbian refugees - all matters on which President Bill Clinton's administration and Mr. Tudiman have fundamentally different views.

Croatia Harshly Criticized in European Rights Report

But after returning to Washington, Mrs. quite simple: had government or, as one Aibright sent Mr. Tudjman a letter that so diplomat put it, "corruption, nepotism and pleased the Croatian leader that it was mismanagement." promptly leaked. A newspaper in the coastal outside influence here, must temper their city of Split described it as having the "taste of apology

Mrs. Albright wrote that while she was aware that her visit had been difficult, "I want to see you as a part of Europe where you

Becoming part of Europe is a primary goal for Mr. Tudjman, who bristles when his country is referred to as Balkan, but it is a goal that will not become a reality unless Croaua becomes far more democratic. Euro-

pean diplomats have told bim repeatedly. The report by the European security organization did not address the economic situation of the country, but that too is, in a word, miserable. While a few at the top political allies of Mr. Tudjman and members

It takes \$1,000 a month just to buy the minimum amount of food for a family of four, said a woman in her mid-30s, but the, righting in Bosnia and to allow for the return average monthly wage is about \$400. Milk costs the equivalent of about 60 cents a liter in Slovenia, while here it is more than \$2, a Croatian woman said this week.

The cause of the economic troubles is

On the political score, the European group said that under pressure from the United States and the European Union, the Croatian government had made commitments to freedom of the press

But Croatian Television, the main source of news for as many as 90 percent of Croatians, 'remains subject to political control by the ruling party,' the report said. On the international war-crimes tribunal.

the report said the Croatian government had embarked on a campaign to "encourage distrust and hostility" toward it among the

Croatian populace. Mr. Tudjman, who diplomats say is con-vinced he will be indicted by the tribunal, has declared that the tribunal has no jurisdiction over anything that happened during the operations carried out by the army when it regained control, in 1995, of territories in the

Sassy Gucci Shows Its Fighting Spirit

powerful Gucci image to a sophisticated new in the bidding war for the lux-

Gucci shareholders be worse served than by an amicable

without Domenico - we are tailored group, the leather store executives. dresses washing down a long
Sitting with Donatella and runway that made a dull show

Santo Versace in an apparent show of Italian solidarity, De Sole also praised Ford.

said of his maneuver to create 'ghost' shares for Gncci employees in order to help ward off the corporate invader: "I've done the right thing and I'm proud of it - and I'd redo it any time."

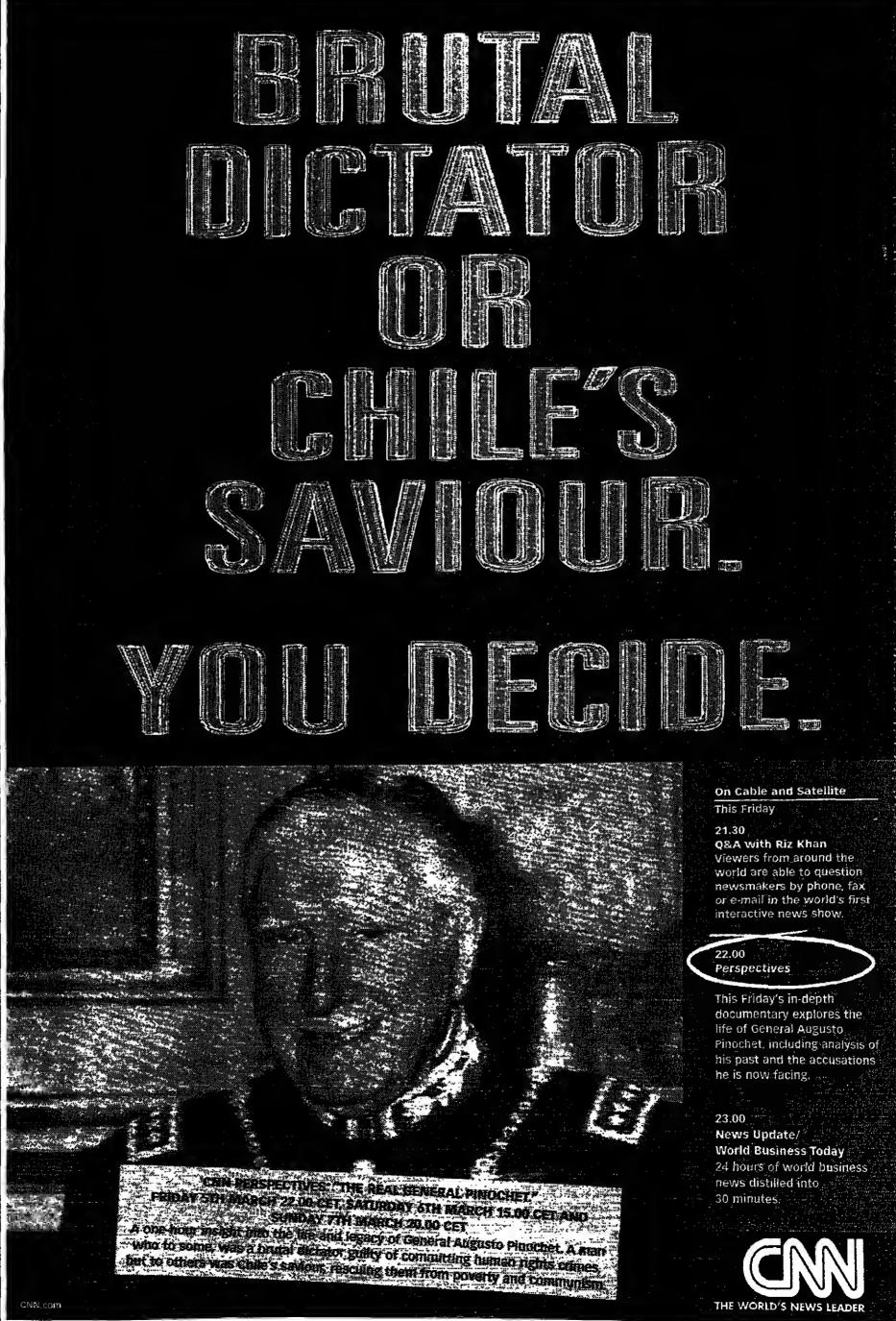
'If Amanlt wants the com-

pany, he should pay the prop-er price for it." he added.

The wonder is how, with all the financial drama, Ford could have concentrated on alone such a good one. After a couple of seasons

tock-roolding pants; as a mice? sassy ruched skirt, as a breast. The plate worn with a velvet skirt the elegant ease of coats in under a red fox coat — one of reversible leather; in the under a red fox coat — one of many furs in the sensual Ford's take on fashion is always sexy but ironic. And what could be more so than what could be more so than

blouse in black leather or cobweb-fine knit, cupping the bosom? The designer's favorcoats bound with leather or dressed up as formal wear. slung from the hips. In the more familiar disco In the more familiar disco a snowboarding princess. She's the one who dares to





powerful Gucci In a strange way, the long show — taking show, with classically elegant its sexy, modern coats and little black cocktail dresses embedded among the level - has raised the stakes flashy pieces, seemed more serious than usual about the elothes. And very haute cou-ture. Ford is ready for his close-up - if Gucci falls into

Since imaginatively cut and-dash hrand by LVMH nouvelle couture has been the strength of Josephus Melchior Thimister's Paris shows, much was expected of his dehut at Genny - a bouse whose designers use the revolving door. But the only hint of the Dotch designer's talent was in the trademark cibow-length gloves and an opening of fresh cotton shirt with long black leather skirt. The rest might have been de-"I can't imagine working signed on autopilot the group, the gray flamel group. Heads up! Here's a sporty four-pocket military jacket. Then a sea of bias-ent evening

> It is tough for houses without a strong fashion personality to know which way to turn. Ferragamo had the Israeli-American singer Noa belting out her hig numbers as a parade of tasteful, luxuri-ous, hut surprisingly hulky clothes walked the runway. Sportswear was the theme, and Yohji Yamamoto was the

seem duller.

big influence.
That resulted in some strange marriages, such as Ferragamo's superlight alpaca knitwear as long shrouds of dresses, its leather coats as Victorian floorscrapers, and a duvet coat wrapped like a kimono. And whatever possessed the six-

The best of the show was in classy pale colors like hut-terscotch and putty, with the prim and innocent peasant settially Ferragamo? Long

> And never say die for sportswear, whether it is dressed down for fast action At Byblos, designer John Bartlett's funky program notes described the fast life of like orange and yellow, and

pieces like slouchy pants, hooded tops combining knit But to the steamy story, Ford had added new elements: refinement and ro- em - and utterly American. ments: remember and the Bartlett has signature utility sporty utility elements of last season. And even Hollywood season. And even Hollywood flash moved into graceful flash moved into graceful at the apple of at the apple of the season to a single flap on a classic trench coat, or a zipmode as pants, skirts and per at the ankle of nylon

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Iraq Policy Questions

End the Mystery

Without ever saying as much, the White House seems to have shifted its military strategy in Iraq to advance the goal of toppling Saddam Hussein. The change has become clear in recent days as Washington escalated air strikes. The bombing raids appear designed to punish the Iraqi military in hopes that disgruntled officers will lead a rebellion against Saddam rather than suffer further losses of men and eqnipment. If this is the new American strategy, President Bill Clinton or Defense Secretary William Cohen should let the American people and Congress know. The air raids are no secret in Iraq, and the potential threat to Saddam is no doubt well understood in Baghdad. Many Americans might support an effort to unseat Saddam. But the application of American force overseas should never be a matter of mystery and

speculation at home or exempt from congressional consultation. One of

these days an American or British pilot may be captured or killed, and the rea-

sons for placing him in danger ought to be explained before that day arrives.

It no longer seems plausible to sug-

Under UN Cover

It turns out that American intelligence was apparently not content just to help international inspectors look openly and legally for Iraq's special weapons. The United States also used UN cover to conduct a second, secret, Americans-only operation spying on Iraqi military communications. All this tonk place while the United States was denying Iraqi charges that it was exploiting the agreed-upon UN inspections for purposes of American espionage. The toll of the two operations, which ended when Iraq cut off inspections after the American and British bombing of last December, only

now is being assessed.
You could argue that prying out the secrets of Iraq's suspected noclear, chemical and biological weapons is so urgent a goal as to justify almost any excess in its pursuit. That goal would justify the heavy political costs that might follow an inadvertent disclosure. Not to speak of damage done to the battered but still-standing UN obligation, which the American agents signed, oot to take instructions from or to report to their own government.

Good Olympic Advice

The Mitchell panel's proposals include a ban oo all gifts but those of oominal value to members from candidate cities; selection of a majority of IOC members by national Olympic committees and other qualified groups; term limits and strict conflictof-interest policies, and annual inde-pendent audits of IOC books that would be made poblic.

daily air attacks are merely a response to Iraqi efforts to shont down American and British planes, Iraq has challenged the flights, but the expanding American rules of engagement give pilots greater latitude to strike an assortment of air defense, communications and other military targets. The White House also needs to an-

swer reports that American spies manipulated the United Nations weapons inspection program in Iraq. The latest account was provided on Tuesday by The Washington Post, which reported that Americans had secretly wired a UN microwave transmission system to allow Washington to monitor a wide range of secret Iraqi military communications without the knowledge of UN officials. Washington's desire 10 collect information on Iraq's military is understandable, but data should not be gathered in a way that compromises the United Nations' independence. That will only make it harder to carry out disarmament under international authority in the future, and will hinder American efforts to counter the spread

of prohibited weapons worldwide.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

But the piggybacking operation was actually trained in the first instance not at Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. It was intended to penetrate certain Iraqi communications that involved a different calculus of costs and risks and, finally, offered benefits that almost certainly would have been lesser

even if they had been fully achieved. There is more to this shabby exploitation of the United Nations. The outcome adds to the difficulties facing the United States and others in designing another arms-monitoring scheme to replace the one lost in December; no workable sobstitute for UN inspections, imperfect as they are, has yet been found. The latest disclosures also are bound to sharpen the question of whether other UN ageocies bave beeo penetrated quietly by various national intelligence services. The State Department spokesman's assurance that Unscom 'oever has been seen as a

precedent" has a wispy quality to it. What bappened is not a moral crime, but it is a blunder, bestowing further embatrassment on a line of American policy already afflicted with a bad case

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

The ethics commission empaneled terrent to corruption, the commissioo by the U.S. Olympic Committee has urged the IOC to become a "public provided an excellent template for re-international organization" as defined forming the International Olympic Committee and eliminating its graftfriendly culture. The recommendations, which the commission chairman, former Senator George Mitchell, re-leased on Monday, champion struc-agents of public international groups. leased on Monday, champion structural changes that can belp inoculate the IOC, oational Olympic committees and competing cities against the kind of vote-buying that helped Salt Lake City

boosters win the 2002 Winter Games.

As a private entity under Swiss law. the IOC is currently accountable to oo one. But in a potentially strong de-

by a new global coovention on combating bribery in business transactions. This agreement calls for the United States and other signatories to expand All President Bill Clintoo need do is designate the IOC as a public international organization and persuade

other nations to do the same. Although the commission lacked subpoena power, it estimated that Salt Lake City boosters had spent from \$4 million to \$7 million since 1989 on IOC members and relatives. The panel also raised a thorny question. Beyond two executives and several trustees who have resigned, were any other trustees of the Salt Lake committees aware of the improprieties? Only the investigations being conducted by the De-partment of Justice and Utah's attorney general can provide the answer.

Other Comment

Serious Trouble in Israel

American Jews and Israel are moving away from ooe another, and the consequences over time could be disastrous for both. The link between Israel and Amer-

ican Jewry is vital to both sides and cannot be taken for granted. If it begins to fray, it could have catastrophic consequences. With Jewish religious issues once again before the Knesset and likely to be the currency of aggressive' deal-making for politicians seeking election in May, the risks are real.

Israel's religious parties will not have a sudden epiphany and disband in favor of study and teaching. Consequently, the Israeli majority needs finally to find

the courage to say "enough aiready" to religious coercion. This still relatively silent majority must overcome its own petty divisions and, while there is still time, define an alternative vision for Israel that maintains democratic values and ensures an enlightened Jewish char-

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The religious minority's impositioo of its will is unquestionably doing real damage. For American Jews, it may mean redoctions in charitable giving or less willingness to engage politically on Israel's behalf. For Israelis, it is reflected in a growing cultural divide.

acter of the state.

- David A. Harris, national executive director of the American Jewish Committee, commenting in the Los Angeles Times.

Herald Eribune

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Inviting Inflation: A Throw of the Dice in Japan

W ASHINGTON — A year ago, the idea that a major industrial power would deliberately inject inflation into its economy would have been greeted with horror. It would have been the financial world's equivalent of a president, or a princess, deciding to take a little heroin and letting it be known.

But when Japan's leaders began flooding the country with mooey a few weeks ago, they did so with the silent acquiescence of the United States and other trading partners, even though these may eventually pay an economic and a political price for this shift of strategy in Tokyo.

The silence that has greeted Japan's wink-and-nudge confirmation of a policy decision to increase money sup-ply and to maneuver its already feeble interest rates even lower reflects Japan's desperation and the international bope that this last throw of the dice will halt Japan's long downward spiral. Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's Finance Ministry chose inflation only after trying everything else and failing.

Japan's stealthy decision to "monits gigantic bank debt problem also illustrates how unpredictable the world economy has become in the past nomy during the past five years.

By Jim Hoagland

year, as orthodoxy after orthodoxy has wilted under the high-speed pressures of globalization.

Even the most senior wizards are at a loss today to explain the implications of the U.S. economy growing at 6 percent this last quarter while Asian and European financial bases stagnate or contract. In ways not seen since the Great Depression, the world's financial elite is losing confidence in its prescriptive and analytical hold on global affairs. The public's confidence is not

likely to be far behind.

There are two great mystifying disparities in today's global economy. Nothing seems to stop the American consumer from spending in good times; last autumn's Wall Street slide was overcome by a new burst of shop-ping and debt accumulation. And notiing seems to start the Japanese consumer spending in bad times.

Massive public works projects, gift vouchers provided by the government, and other stimulus measures have failed to revive Japan's shrinking eco-

Culture still counts, Japanese house-holds increase their already phenomenal national savings rate in times of uncertainty. The Finance Ministry seems to have concluded that only a threat that inflation will drive prices higher tomorrow can get Japanese consumers into the shops and buying today. A modest amount of inflation will inbricate the

wheels of growth, it is hoped. Three boge questions remain, even if printing more yen and pumping money into the banks succeed in spuring Jap-anese spending. Can Japan's financial wizards control inflation at the probable target of 2 to 3 percent? Can inflation be contained in one major economy in the global era? And what will be the impact on trade balances, and on coming elections, of Japan's new looser money policy?

Currency still counts. An inevitable consequence of increasing the yen supply is already showing up. A dollar today buys more yen (about 120 as J write this, against 113 a few weeks ago) and is almost certain to buy even more as monetary policy is eased in Japan.

This makes Japanese goods cheaper in the United States, which helps hold U.S. inflation in check, as President

Bill Clinton and his financial wizards have begun to emphasize defensively to the public. But it also means that last year's near record \$65 billion U.S. trade deficit with Japan is almost certain to rise to a new record this year.

That will occur in a year when the \$15 billion U.S. trade deficit with China that Mr. Clinton inherited in 1993 may reach \$70 billion, Commerce Secretary

William Daley warned recently.

Meanwhile, the euro has steadily weakened against the dollar since its introduction on Jan. 1 because Germany's coalition government has not halted the deterioration in Europe's economic powerhouse.

The strength of the U.S. economy gives Washington room to take the high road for now: to observe Japan's desperate pursuit of a little inflation with a benevolent silence and a quiet prayer for the strategy to work, as the first vital step to get consumers abroad buying again to ward off global depression. But time grows short. Politically, the bill for this restraint may come due for Al Gore in 2000 if these trends re-

surrect protectionism and trade as vibrant campaign issues.

Turkey and Iran Matter, So the West Ought to Help Out *

PARIS — The future of the Near and Middle East will be influenced more by Iran and Turkey than by anything done by the 'rogue states' and private-eoterprise terrorists

who preoccupy Washington. Saddam Hussein is isolated. Osama bin Laden, in his Afghan cave, is a political irrelevance, despite the publicity that Washington lavishes on him. Israel's dealings with the Palestinian Aothority, Lebanon and Syria are serious matters, but nothing is going to happen until the Israeli elections are over.

The undeclared war that Washington oow wages against Iraq serves no constructive political purpose. It kills a few fragis from the air every day or two, while putting American and British pilots in profitless jeopardy. These attacks continue because Washington can't imagine how to explain stopping them. On other fronts, it finances exiled opposition movements and factions of the divided Kurds, all of them defeated by Saddam

Hussein in the past. Eveots in Iran and Turkey, are significant because these are the two most important states in their region. Both have recently experienced major and constructive internal changes.

By William Pfaff

Turkey's capture of the Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan unexpectedly opened pro-spects for an end to the civil struggle that has poisoned Turkish democracy, political stabil-ity and international standing. A serious effort at national re-

conciliation is now under way. Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit has announced major development plans for the southeastern provinces, where war against the guerrillas of Mr. Ocalan's Turkish Workers Party has gone on for 15 years, at heavy cost to the civilian population.

The plan, as announced, includes the return and resettlement of hundreds of thousands of people forced out of their villages, as well as educational and bealth programs. All this, of course, is pro-

posal, not achievement, and has an unresolved international dimension, since the Kurds are surrogates in a larger struggle of Iranian, Iraqi, Syrian and Turkish national interests. However, it is a significant development.

Iran has held its first mnnicipal elections since the Islamic revolution of 1979. They be sent abroad to study, a great ident George Bush called on the have produced an unexpectedly many at American universities. Iraqi opposition to rise against

broad victory for reformist forces associated with President Mohammed Khatami, There was a very large turnont (25 million), almost as large as in the last presidential election. These results are taken as an indication of what may come in

national elections in 2000. This popular mandate confirms the receot victory of reformers inside the government, who forced the resignation of the minister in charge of the security service and caused the arrest of 10 officers suspected of murdering several prominent intellectuals last November and December in an effort to intimidate the reform movement.

Again, these are inconclusive but important developments. In the medium term, it is reasonable to think that Iran will break out of its cultural isolatioo from the modern world, which in cootemporary circumstances is scarcely sustainable, Iran underwent forced modemization under the shah in the 1960s and '70s. Under the religious rule of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and successors. young people have continued to

The shah's programs and his overnment's intimate alliance with the United States provoked cultural and religious reaction and a nationalist upbeaval. But that was two decades ago. Since then, Iran has successfully defied the United States, using the means available to weak countries confronting strong ones. It has been through a war with had that was proportionately more destructive than World War L Iran now has experienced a decade of peace, and its clites

are looking outward again.
Inside Iraq, Shiite Muslims
(co-religionists of the Iranians) are once again in conflict with Saddam Hussein's govern-ment. While loyal to Iraq during the war with Iran, they have since been the main internal opponents to Saddam's Sunnite and sectarian dictatorship.

The Baghdad government is generally thought responsible for the murder in late February of the spiritual leader of Iraq's Shiites, who had become dangerously ontspoken in his criticisms of the regime. The result was anti-government rioting on a scale not experienced since the immediate aftermath of the Gulf War, when President George Bush called on the

restraint from outsiders. While

assisting the process of demo-

cratization, Washington should

scrupulously avoid intervening,

or seeming to intervene, on be-

volving trade-offs between as-

sistance and intervention has

been created by recent devel-

opments on the future of East

A more difficult dilemma in-

half of any contender.

Saddam (and, when they did, walked away from them).

Turkey and Iran are already the major powers of the Eastern Mediterranean. Turkey is a democracy, an imperfect one. Iran is enlarging limited political freedoms and establishing the institutions of civil society under the overall control of a clerical establishment that itself is divided into liberal and conservative camps.

Both countries have resources - water and minerals in Turkey, with relatively developed industry, and oil in Iran. Both access the oil-rich Cancasus, and are politically active in ex-Soviet Central Asia.

The European Union has handled its relations with Turkey so maladroitly as to have seriously alienated the Turks, who bave been anxious, since creation of the modern Turkish state, to reclaim a European identity. The United States is locked in a fruitless and unsuccessful boycott of Iran, meant mainly to punish the Iranians for having expelled and humiliated Americans 20 years ago. None of this makes much sense, wheo you think about the vear 2000 and beyond.

ional Herold Tribune.

Toward Democratic Indonesia and a Viable East Timor

AKARTA - On her visit to Indooesia this Thursday and Friday, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has the opportunity to move forward on democratization of Indonesia and East Timor's future. But there are dangers involved. if Americans want to help democratize Indonesia, they

terference. A variety of official, semiofficial and private American organizations are in Indonesia already, helping educate and

will have to avoid crossing the

line between assistance and in-

C' YDNEY - There is a his-

toric opportunity to end the

East Timor conflict, which has

cost the lives of 200,000 East

Timorese since Indonesia in-

vaded and occupied the former

B. J. Habibie has said it is ready

to end its rule if an autonomy

offer is rejected. But factions of

the Indonesian army, including

elements loyal to former Pres-

ident Subarto, are determined to

stay on, or wreck East Timor in

ber of troops in the territory as urged by the UN Secretary-

General, the United States, the

European Unioo and Australia.

Indonesia has increased its sol-

A pattern of army-instigated

religious and ethnic violence is

emerging not only in East

Timor but in many parts of In-

donesia. Gangs of unemployed

yooths, criminals and drug ad-

dicts as well as Indonesian

Muslim extremists, are armed

by the authorities. Often direct-

ly supported by soldiers, they

have launched murderous at-

The East Timorese resistance

has exercised utmost restraint

since Mr. Suharto was forced to

resign in May by the rising tide of popular protest against his

corrupt and repressive rule. But

our patience is running out. We

keep our options open as to our

next course of action if the sim-

Indonesia should leave by

aoon continues to deteriorate.

January. The United Nations

should take over administration

of the territory for up to five

years, and prepare it for state-

tacks against civilians.

diers to well over 20,000.

Instead of reducing the num-

revenge before they leave.

The government of President

Portuguese colooy in 1975.

By Donald K. Emmerson voters in advance of the na-

tional parliamentary election scheduled for June 7. More Americans, probably including former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, will be coming to monitor the balloting. It will not take much for rumors to spread that the United States is backing or undermining this or that party or candidate. Among the many parties

By José Ramos-Horta

hood. We will hold a referendum

on self-determination at the end

Indonesian troops should leave as quickly as possible. Se-

curity of the territory should be

We have proposed an end to all armed activities in East

Timor and called for a perma-

nent UN presence to monitor

the situation. A UN peacekeep-

ing missioo is a matter of ut-

most urgency.
The East Timorese resistance

fighters should form the core of

a new police force trained by

countries like Australia and New Zealand. East Timorese serving in the Indooesian army

and police could also be part of

The small group of "pro-In-

donesia" elements should not

fear an independent East Timor.

They will come to realize that in

an independent nation they will

be real citizens, not lackeys of

There have been many pa-

tronizing comments about East

Timor's supposed inability to govern itself. We have valuable

natural resources, including ar-

abica coffee, sandalwood, mar-

hle, fisheries, offshore oil and natural gas. But many of these

resources became monopolies

owned hy the Suharto family

and the generals who invaded

East Timor. As a result, tens of millions of dollars have been

We are conscious of the dif-

an independent East Timor. comment to the They will not only be of eco-Herald Tribune.

ficulties and challenges facing

lonted from our people.

this new police force.

another country.

placed in UN hands.

of the agreed transition period.

contesting the elections, none is likely to win an absolute majority. In prospect instead are

politicians to form and break party coalitions in the run-up to the scheduled naming of the next president and vice president by a majority of the People's Consultative Assembly in November. The temptation to accuse foreigners of trying to influence the outcome will be hard for some Indonesians to resist.

Continuing violence, especially between Moslim and Christian Indonesians, further heightens the risk. Rife as they

When Jakarta finally quits, it

will leave behind a society pro-

foundly traumatized by 23

years of savage colonization. It

will also leave a culture of vi-

olence and corruption that was

alien to East Timorese tradi-

Portugal has said it is prepared

to cover the entire budget of East

Timor during the first years of

independence. The Portuguese

governor in Macau is ready to

lead a business delegation from

the enclave, China and Hong

Kong to look into investment Businesses from Singapore and Taiwan have expressed interest

East Timor will benefit from

the Lome Convention, which

will give it tariff-free access to

the huge European Union mar-

ket. It could develop into a free

trade area, with tourism as a

The United States, Canada,

Australia, New Zealand and the

Nordic countries will be among

the main donors and investors.

Iceland has offered to assist

East Timor in organizing its

fishing industry. Two major

Portuguese firms with interests

in telecommunications and pe-

troleum have indicated strong

interest in investing more than

supplier of goods to an inde-pendent East Timor — if it has

the sense to look to the future.

The writer, vice president of the National Council of Ti-marese Resistance and a Nobel

Peace laureate, contributed this

comment to the International

Indonesia will benefit as a

\$100 million.

in economic opportunities.

major source of revenue.

tional society before 1975.

train administrators, parties and months of maneuvering by are with potential for conspiracy

Timor, invaded and annexed by Jakarta in the mid-1970s. President B. J. Habibie wants to settle East Timor's status as quickly as possible. He has made a take-it-or-leave-it offer: East Timor can have wide-Give East Timor's People Their Chance ranging autonomy within In-donesia, or he will ask the consultative assembly to revoke the territory's provincial status. That would probably lead to nomic and security nature.

what many East Timorese have long sooght, independence. Bot how will East Timorese wishes be made known? International intervention may be needed to minimize violence. assure freedom of choice and facilitate a successful transition to viable independence, if that is the road to be taken. Bot Washington should not offer, in effect, to take East Timor off Jakarta's hands, alleviating Indonesia of any obligation to

theorizing, Indonesian political conditions call for the utmost help this complex and vulnerable process succeed. It would be unwise for Washington to play a role in East Timor without adequate preparation and a reasonable chance of success.

Diplomats in several capitals have been talking about a "con-tact group" on East Timor and a possible foreign military presence" there involving the United Nations. Such plans make sense if they can facilitate a successful transition to what most observers assume will be

independence. For Mrs. Albright in Jakarta. the priority should be on assuring a credible Indonesian commitment to help the East Timorese choose their future,

whatever that future may be. For his part, Mr. Habibie should have no illusions that Washington is eager to shoulder the burden of sponsoring the independence of East Timor, let alone of keeping the new country alive against Indonesian hostility or indifference.

The writer a professor at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and editor of "Indonesia Beyond Suharto," to be published soon, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1899: Fit to Marry?

PARIS - The Senate of the State of North Dakota has enacted a law providing for the appointment of a board of physicians to examine the physical and mental condition of applicants for marriage licenses, and to decide upon their fitness to enter into marriage relations. Licenses are to be refused to any applicants who suffer from ailments which are likely to manifest themselves in their pro-geny, especially dipsomania, insanity and tuberculosis.

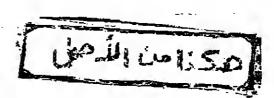
1924: Caliphate Ban

ANGORA — The members of the National Assembly belong-ing to the Kemalist majority have taken a vote, abolishing the Caliphate. The Caliph and his relatives will leave Constantinople for Egypt. The Bill bears the signatures of fifty Deputies. It provides that the

Caliph be deported and the Caliphate abolished; that all members of the imperial family be deprived in perpetuity of the right to reside in Tarkey; that they lose the status of Turkish citizens; that a combined indemnity will be allotted to them.

1949: Wet Kansas

TOPEKA - Kansans will probably be able to drink liquor legally in their homes and private clubs this week end for the first time in sixty-eight years. A bill legalizing the sale, possession and consumption of liquor need only be signed by Governor Frank Carlson. It was passed by both the Senate and the House. Actually Kansas has not been as dry at it might have been during prohibition. Bootlegging was so common that it led to the familiar comment, "Kansans vote dry but drink wet." Only Oklahoma and Mississippi retain state-wide prohibition.



مكذامن الأعوا

OPINION/LETTERS

The Kurds Are Far From an Ethnic Monolith PKK and other European Kurds seen demonstrating over Mr.

bassy Bury dist ov le cently treated to the nearly nightly spectacle of Kurds attacking embassies and consulates throughout Europe in a passionate if confused display of solidarity and protest over the capture of the Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan.

First, Kurds occupied Greek and Kenyan facilities over the two countries' reported involvement in Mr. Ocalan's arrest by Turkish commandos in Nairobi on Feb. 15. After those assaults died down, diaspora Kurds attacked the Israeli consulate in Berlin, because of Israel's putative complicity in Mr. Ocalan's nabbing. Then, almost as an afterthought,

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Kurds marched on overseas Turkish government missions and commercial offices, even coffee shops and restaurants owned or

frequented by Turks in Europe.
Their message was unmistakable: Release the Kurdish leader or face the wrath of the united Kurdish nation. Mr. Ocalan was formally arrested and charged with treason. Turkish prosecutors are likely to seek the death penalty.

ages of the Moven, and absent in most commentary, were the voices of the millions of Turkish citizens who regard the What was missing from the images of devotion to "Apo," as Mr. Ocalan is known, and absent in of Kurdish heritage who regard the chairman of the Kurdish Workers Party, or PKK, less as their leader than as a Stalinist villain who hijacked Kurdishness in the eyes of the world. Many of these Turkish Kurds express a hatred of Apo and the PKK that equals or even exceeds that of the Turks.

In the Military Martyrs' Cemetery in the Turkish capital, for example, lie 200 of the almost ther, who then ticked off a list of 5,000 Turkish soldiers who have the different ethnicities that make role in the cover-up of the Caubeen killed in action during the 15- up of modern Turkey. "Tell the casus Kurds' disaster at the hands year fight with the PKK, a conflict that has claimed some 30,000 Turkish citizens, although the vast majority have been Kurds.
The day after Mr. Ocalan's cap-

ture, the cemetery was filled with families of the fallen, come to give voice to their loss and to silently thank the Turkish government for, they hoped, bringing the long nightmare to an end, or at least the beginning of the end.
We thank the state for having

kept its word by bringing the baby-killing monster to face justice," said a woman named Sadet Isprili from Turkey's rugged northeast. "But nothing they can do will bring back the light in our lives," When asked what she thought Mr. Ocalan's penalty should be, her response was that of many

Turkish mothers who have lost their sons. 'He deserves execution, but that is too good for him," she said. "The best thing would be for the state to deliver him into the hands of families who have been ruined by his terror, so we might rip him

apart with our fingers." But such sentiments are misleading. When asked if it would be possible to forgive and forget and live once again as neighbors with Turkey's many Kurds, Mrs. Isprili snapped, "What are you talking about? This war is not between Turks and Kurds, this is between our country and the PKK!"

Others at the cemetery expressed similar views. 'Please, please!" pleaded a grieving fa-

world that we are brothers! Turk, Kurd, Laz, Georgian, Circassian - all of us who live here! The PKK must not be allowed to get away with the its cheap propa-ganda and filthy lies!"

Yet, almost without exception, Kurds as a uniform bloc of people Ocalan in his hour of need, thankful for his courageous resistance against systematic repression by an oppressive colonial power, Turkey.

Kurds were not allowed to speak their own language or even identify themselves as Kurds, lest they be thrown into ghastly, "Midnight Express" style prisons, claimed a fellow from a "Kurdish think tank" in the United States.

The Kurds had rebelled against the Turks, reminded another expert in Germany. By invoking self-determination, Kurds were attempting to establish their own, ethnically defined country; the one they had been cheated out of by European powers at the end of World War I and the collapse of the Ottoman Turkish state.

Still, where were the other Kurds, especially those who can speak, read and write in their own tongue? Where, for example, were the Pesh Merga fighters, gallant in their baggy pants and cummerbund belts, associated with the Northern Iraqi Kurdish leaders Massood Barzani and Jalal Talabani? They were fighting alongside the Turks in those areas of Northern Iraq outside of their control, in an effort to evict the PKK from the region.

The Kurds of Syria and Iran were also nowhere to be seen or heard, perhaps because both groups have been plowed, however imperfectly, into the national ideology of the countries where they live.

And where were the voices of those Kurds who ended up in the Cancasus region of the former Soviet Union? The vast majority of them are scattered in dismal refugee camps among the nearly I million 'internal displaced people' in the post-Soviet repoblic of Azerbaijan. They were ethnically cleansed from their native homes by Armenia during the war over Nagomo-Karabakh. What is notable about this little- He is the House majority whip and

4 37 4 7

known Kurdish tragedy is that the a Republican from Texas.

seen demonstrating over Mr. Ocalan's arrest played an active of the Armenians, the price, it would seem, for continued Armenian support in Europe, and the United States, for the anti-Turkish. Kurdish cause.

While hardly perfect, official Turkey's means of dealing with the Western media portrayed the its domestic Kurds - including about one-third of its Parliament who were solidly behind Mr. and three former presidents, among them the late Turgut Ozal - has improved vastly over the

past decade, partly, if not largely, in response to Mr. Ocalan and his PKK. Most of the protesting diaspora Kurds in Europe would not recognize the country they fled a decade or more ago. They remain frozen in time.

The vast majority of Kurds, like those fallen soldiers who served in the Turkish military and fought the PKK, are an intimate if sometimes problematic part of the demographic landscape that is Turkey. As for the protesting diaspora Kurds, they are increasingly a marginalized group of losers, who, aided by a Western media culture that relies on black and white answers to complex questions, might have been able to asurp the communal identity of the Kurdish people temporarily, but whose long-term claim to be-ing the hearth keepers of Kurdishness is tenuous indeed.

Mr. Goltz, author of "Azerbaijan Diary: A Rogue Reporter's Adventures in an Oil-rich, Wartorn, Post-Soviet Republic," contributed this comment to the Los

East Timor's Transition

Any civil war that results from

Indonesia's withdrawal from East

Timor will be the responsibility of

Indonesia. It is the Indooesians

who are arming their East

Timorese supporters and organ-

A commentary on the opposite

page yesterday, by Tom Rosen-stiel and Bill Kovach, misiden-

tified Representative Tom DeLay.

Correction

A Love Affair With Violence

WASHINGTON - No matter how high our "tech" gets, we still adhere to primal impulses going back to Neander- Joel Schumacher, gives the all these wrestling shows inthal days. In other words, an-

other century is ending, but America's sick love affair with violence is not. If anything, the affair is as passionate as ever. We recoil in horror at monstrous crimes such as the brutal

murder of a black man in Texas, or the insane overkill by New York policemen who fired 41 shots at an unarmed African immigrant. Such stories, of course, tell us that racism, as well as brute behavior still flourishes.

Meanwhile, the popular enlture continues to celebrate violence, exploit violence, glory in violence. On a recent weekend, the two most successful movies at the American box office were "S Millimeter," about the mak-ing of a pornographic film in which a young woman is butchered on camera, and "Payback," an imbecilie Mel Gibson vehicle in which the violence is stomach-chumingly excessive, explicit and sadistic.
"Payback" opens with close-

nps of two large, bleeding bullet wounds in Mr. Gibsoo's back. In the course of the movie he is clobbered, battered, hit by a car and has a couple of bare toes smashed by a thug wielding a huge sledgehammer.

"8 Millimeter" may be worse because it is so cynically bypocritical. Nicolas Cage, as the private eye bero, goes on a cesspool tour of the porno underground. The movie's director,

izing them into militias. These mi-

litias are now attacking civilians.

should take place under interna-

tional anspices, perhaps led by the

United Nations and Portugal, This

would give the East Timorese a

chance to reconstruct their soci-

ety, create the institutions needed

for self-government and begin

their recovery from more than two

The writer is media coordin-

ator for the East Timor Action

Network/U.S.

Brooklyn, New York.

decades of brutal occupation.

JOHN M. MILLER.

Any transition to independence

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

By Tom Shales

audience lavishly generous ex-posure to some of the kinkiest characters and most grotesque simulated sex ever in a mainstream film - while Mr. Cage's staunch hero recoils in horror.

The hero turns away. Mr. Schumacher's camera does not

MEANWHILE

back with a vengeance. Jerry Springer revitalized the tired talk show format by adding fights and brawls to virtually each edition of The Jerry Springer Show." The results can be admittedly funny in a campy way, but the way Mr. Springer's studio audience cheers the fights is frightening.

Professional wrestling was a mainstay of televisioo in its earliest, silliest days, but films of those early matches seem quaint by comparisoo with today's oew travagant, the punishments more effectively faked, and the weapons of choice brought into the ring include metal chairs, tables, everything but the kitsemi-facetions wrestling series, combatants ooce did throw a kit-

chen sink into the ring. Again, the effect can be ab-

Proposal for the Balkans

in the United States or in Europe to

military intervention in Kosovo.

Without Western intervention,

there will either be thousands of

Serbian refugees or thousands of

Albanian refugees struggling out

of Kosovo and looking for refuge

in Western Europe, Military intervention is not the

solotion. It will raise the question

of what should happen next. Mil-

itary power is a tool of diplomacy,

The solution to the Balkan crisis

is that all of the states that made up

There should be little opposition

surdly comic - something raised to the level of anarchic insanity - but the audience for cludes millions of children.

Whether they watch wrestlingextravaganzas on Ted Turner's TBS cable network or the shows on USA Cable - and both shows. score huge ratings - kids are being repeatedly subjected to the sacred theology of violence. This Television, of course, is the doctrine maintains that physical most powerful cultural influence combat is manly, that brawling is. in America, and TV violence is the true test of character, that bullies and thugs enjoy lives ofpower and luxury.

It is fascist entertainment. And increasingly, the wrestling stars: are turning up in other venues --on talk shows, in guest shots on sitcoms, or, of course, in the governor's mansion in Minnesota. Somehow it jost does not

seem to be all in good fun.

When kids can't get a violeoce fix from television, they can certainly get one from gory video games with names like. "Nuke 'Em Duke," which are advertised, of course, on kiddie. TV shows.

Whatever happened to the Vand "improved" brand. Now chip, the gizmo that was supviolent shows inaccessible to kids? Congress mandated it -but then, Congress has been so busy with other matters lately; The V-chip always was a lame chen sink. In fact, on "Extreme idea, with Big Brotherly over-Championship Wrestling, a tooes, but surveying the carnage that litters the landscape these days, maybe it would be better than nothing.

The Washington Pust

the former Yugoslavia should be

offered membership in the Euro-

These states are not ready to

join as full members of the Union,

But the European Unioo could cre-

ate a candidate member category,

if the people of the Balkan states,

each voting in their own elections,

creating this candidate member

status, to bring peace to the region,

to create a land link with Greece,

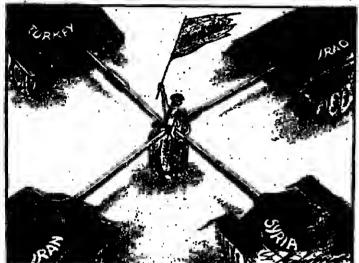
and to save ourselves an indefinite

Let us begin on the hard task of

wish to become members.

military burden.

pean Union.



BOOKS

THE ERA OF JIANG ZFWIN Simon & Schuster (Asia).

Reviewed by Philip Bowring

MOST foreign bankers and busi-nessmen in Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong read Willy Lam's articles almost daily in the South China Morning Post, of which he is the China editor. Knowing how much money so many have lost in pursuit of the Holy Grall of bringing capitalism to China, they may oow wish that they had studied Lam's work more seriously.

Instead they mostly chose to believe not the work of an experienced journalist but the half-baked views of 'experts.'
These were usually either highly paid young economists with scant knowledge of China's politics and history, or west-ern sinologists who suddenly found there was a lucrative business in advising companies of the opportunities in

the land of a billion capitalists.

Many of Lam's readers were prone to complain of never being given a coherent picture of what was going on in China. A story of one group 'a success in getting the better of anti-reform remnants in Guangdong or Shanghai would be followed the next day by reports of muscle-flexing by the People's Liberation Army or a Beijing push for party control. But the fault was mostly with the

readers. Lam was actually describing the messy reality of China's politics, a buge canvas where personal, ideolog-ical, regional and institutional forces contend. Politics is always in command. Sometimes its direction can be set by the force of personality and political skills of a man such as Mao or Deng, but it is always subject to continuing challenge.

ectives of Deng's successor, Junio Prentice Hall (United States and Europe). Zemin. Many had expected Jiang's tenure to be short. He lacked strong ideo-logical motivation, had no military background and cut an unimpressive

public figure. But Jiang emerges as the synthesizer of the multitude of contradictions that make up China, the cantious manipulator who understands how the system works and has but one goal in life — to survive.

The picture of China that emerges is not one which will give much comfort to the likes of General Motors or Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank. It is a world away from the view that foreigners have been shown of a nation on the cusp of an open economy and free political institutions.

Jiang's China wants a return to some Communist Party certainties, if only to maintain control. It wants modernization, but in the national interest as defined by the party and bureaucracy. It is a regime that, for all its need of local entrepreneurship and foreign capital, despises the Deng "get rich quick" mentality and hopes to gain kndos from appearing to favor the poorer provinces. But at the same time it has to make too many compromises to root out high-level corrup-tion, unless it poses a political threat. The liang era's most effective and

articulate operative, Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, wants large, modern, efficient, honestly run state enterprises and strong central government, not a capitalist free-for-all that produces rapid but regionally unbalanced growth. The book was finished before Beijing's recent abandonment of the Guangdong Inter-national Trust & Investment Corp. to its creditors. But one can easily see Zhu's hand here, at once attacking mismanagement and corruption, deflating pro-

Lam is thus an ideal writer to bring vincial pretentions and showing scant some perspective to the career and obsympathy for foreign banks. Foreigners are there to be used, not to be given a fre hand to make money.

But Lam is doubtful whether Zhu's neoconservative agenda of promoting order and submitting the party "oobility" to systems that further the state, not the individuals cadres, can be applied in practice. Either be will be forced to compromise or like Shang Yang, the reformist hero of China's warring states period, lose his head.

The Jiang methodology, Lam explains, is partly a response to circumstance and partly the outcome of his own experience. Jiang's is the world view of a generation of Soviet-trained engineers who are practical but cautious, valuing order and predictability over other virtues. He needs the party to achieve these goals, but disarray and factionalism within the party have made it necessary for him to rally heavily on his course. for him to rely heavily on his own "Shanghai gang" of trusted associates. Call it stability or stasis, Jiang's

China, Lam says, is a different China than would have emerged had Zhao Ziyang or Hu Yaobang succeeded Deng. That begs many questions about what degrees and types of reform are possible in China without leading to disorder that will undermine the state and the economy.

But Lam does not preach about what should happen. He clearly has liberal sympathies, and some may feel he takes an overly cynical view. This is a political biography, however, with deep roots in the circumstances of Jiang's career. It is always mindful that Jiang is trying to deal with China as it is and set practical, not idealistic, goals. Wishful thinkers will not enjoy this book, but they in particular should read it. International Herald Tribune

WWW.

not an end in itself.

WWW.

JOHN MUSTOE

Thurleigh. England.

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BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

L Salisbury, 68, was executed by Henry VIII of England because she had a faint
land because she had claim to the throne and a son four diamonds. South therewho was a numerical the avoid the ax. He recognized chose the heart eight. South Amg. She ian away from the that West, not East, must have played low from the dummy dragged back.

It was a spirited attempt that failed. Bridge players who try to escape the ax are more likely to be successful, as on the diagramed deal. It was played in a Regional Knockout Team Championship on Marco Island, Georsnip on Marco Island, Georgia, in October, and the North-South cards were held by Bill Root of Boca Raton, Florida, and Bob Jones of Delray Beach, Florida.

Fact content with a weak

East opened with a weak two-diamond bid, and after a takeout double by South, both

cue-bids in diamonds. They

the diamond ace, and there-4 B 6

. ♣ Q·J. SOUTH OK8

North and South made fore ran from spades. First he tried six hearts, were heading for six spades suggesting a possible conand ace, and took the last two
from the North side, which tract, and then retreated over tricks in his hand. This helped
would have failed quickly, but six spades to six no-trump. He him and his team-mates win a

who was a nuisance to the fore took effective action to have been helpful, but West and captured the jack with the king. He cashed three spade winners in dummy, unblocking the jack, and cashed the heart ace. When the 10 appeared from East, he was able to cash the nine. . South led to the club ace, cashed the heart queen, and

led a spade to dummy's 10.
The ending is shown at left.
When the last spade was led from dummy, East was squeezed in a vise position. A club discard would obviously have been fatal, so he gave up the diamond jack. Jones dis-

carded the club eight, led a diamond to the queen, king close match and they

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West	led the he	arf eight.	

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INTERNATIONAL

Netanyahu Rejects Call For Lebanon Withdrawal

JERUSALEM - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected Wednesday a call by Foreign Minister Ariel "Sharon to postpone Israel's May electhat would pull Israeli troops out of

Mr. Sharon floated the unilateral withdrawal plan a day after Ehud Barak, leader of the main opposition Labor exparty, raised the stakes in the race for prime minister by pledging to bring the troops home within a year of taking

Asked about his foreign minister's surprise plan, Mr. Netanyahu, who heads the governing rightist Likud party, told Army Radio: "The election should not be postponed."

"We want to leave Lehanon but we come to us," Mr. Netanyahu said, spurning a unilateral pullout on grounds that Hezbollah guerrilla attacks would shift from Israel's south Lebanon oc-:: cupatioo zone to northern Israel.

Labor, pledging that Mr. Barak, a former army chief, would set up a broad r coalidon if elected prime minister, also rejected Mr. Sharoo's proposal, which was published in major Israeli newspapers and carried by radio stations.

Mr. Sharon launched the trial balloon as a national debate raged in Israel over keeping the army locked in a war of attrition with the pro-Iranian Hezbollah guerrilla group in the south Lebanon

The Lebanon issue has taken center stage in campaigning for the May 17 general election, after the killings of Treven Israelis, including a brigadier-general, by Hezbollah guerrillas in sooth "Lebanoo in a week."

''A national emergency government, i'ded by Likud and Labor, must be established immediately so it can decide on a unilateral withdrawal from Leb-. anon and implementation of the deal - with the Palestinians," Mr. Sharon told newspapers, referring to the Wye River ... land-for-security agreement.

Lebanese maze. Only a unity government can make these kind of decisions, he said, ooting it could take several mooths to implement such moves,

"Elections have been postpooed in the past when urgent matters of state had to be addressed." Mr. Sharon said, referring to a national vote in Israel that was delayed in the aftermath of the 1973 Middle East war.

Mr. Sharon, a hawk who engineered Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, has in the past advocated a phased unilateral "pullback from Lebanon but has largely stayed on the sidelines of the political debate in the election campaign.

M Sharon Faces Bribe Allegations

. The police goestioned Mr. Sharou oo Wednesday about allegations that he ctried to bribe a witness in a court case coocerning his actions as defense minister when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, Agence France-Presse reported from Petah Tikva, Israel.

Police officials said Mr. Sharon was interrogated "under cautioo" hy investigators of the criminal brigade, meaning that his testimooy could be used in legal action against him.

. The investigation centers on allegations that Mr. Sharon granted favors to a general-turned-husinessman, Avigdor Ben-Gal, to change his testimony in a libel case filed by the minister against the Israeli oewspaper Haaretz.

Mr. Ben-Gal was interrogated by

police for 11 hours Feb. 18. Mr. Sharon was out of the country at

that time and was questioned Wednesday at a police station in Petah Tikva, near Tel Aviv.

- The case began with a Haaretz article that claimed that Mr. Sharon had led Israel into a full-scale war in Lebanon while telling Menachem Begin, the prime minister then, that it would be only a limited incursion to halt attacks by Palestinian guerrillas. Mr. Sharon sued Haaretz for libel over the article. Mr. Ben-Gal, who headed the north-ern command of the Israeli Army during

the invasion, was called to testify for Haaretz in the 1997 trial after he said publicly that Mr. Sharoo had secretly plotted a much deeper thrust into Lebanon than approved by Mr. Begin.

But Mr. Ben-Gal retracted that state-

ment during the trial.

The current investigation centers on charges that two weeks before the trial Mr. Ben-Gal accompanied Mr. Sharon, who was then national infrastructure minister, on a trip to Russia. His inclusion on the trip offered Mr. Ben-Gal Incrative business opportunides.



Linda Tripp, who secretly taped Monica Lewinsky's conversations, arriving Wednesday at the Defense Manpower Data Center in Virginia. She has been paid to work at home in Maryland for more than a year.

SCANDAL: Lewinsky's Friends Are Fearful of Reprisals by Starr

Continued from Page 1

refused to cooperate with their criminal inquiry of the president, she cootemplated throwing herself out a window on the hotel's 10th floor, where she stood at the time with several prosecutors, the people familiar with the book said.

Ms. Lewinsky says she "couldn't

bear to go to jail."
"I would come out an old lady and oo one would ever want to marry me," she says, and continues: "I thought there was no way out other than killing myself. If I killed myself, then there would

caused the president." Ms. Lewinsky complains in her book younger Ms. Lewinsky, who taped her that her efforts to call her lawyer and her account of her affair with Mr. Clinton mother were rebuffed by prosecutors

She said that oo that fateful day in January 1998, prosecutors confronted her with a copy of her false affidavit in which she swore that she had not had an affair with Mr. Clipton. But at that time, Ms. Lewinsky's lawyer, Francis Carter, had not yet filed the affidavit with a federal court in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Mr. Starr has said that his office was sent the affidavit anonymously by James be no information and I wouldn't have to Moody, a lawyer for Linda Tripp, who deal with the hurt and the trouble I had had obtained it from lawyers for Paula

Mandela Calls June 2 Election

President Makes the Most of End to Political Suspense

The Associated Press and-for-security agreement.

"This is the only way to get out of the ebanese maze. Only a unity governcouncement, President Nelson Mandela told Parliament on Wednesday that South Africa would bold its second all-

race elections on June 2.

Mr. Mandela had initially wanted elections to take place May 18-27 but said that after consulting with election officials he had decided to hold it a week later to give them more time to prepare. Making lawmakers squirm in antic-

ipation and others break out in langhter, a grinning Mr. Mandela pansed several times to sip from a glass of water before

tion. He is almost certain to be succeeded by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. Mr. Mandela is constitutionally barred from officially proclaiming the election date until after April 30, hut he said he was unofficially revealing it early to allow people still registering to vote to know where they will be on ballot day.

The naming of a date was delayed after opposition parties took the government to court over new rules that allow only people with bar-coded identity documents to register to vote.

The new ID books were first introdoced in 1986, but only about 65 percent of minority whites — many of whom support opposition parties — have the proper documents, compared with 80 percent of the majority blacks.

Though the small, mostly white Democratic Party launched a new legal action against the rules Wednesday, a court last week threw oot a similar bid by the former ruling New National Party. giving the government confidence to name an exact date. The New National

Party was appealing. The Independent Electoral Commission will hold a final bout of voter registration this weekend. Two previous Mr. Mandela, who has led the nation attempts have resulted in about 57 persince an all-race ballot in 1994 ended cent of the 25 million voters becoming

Mr. Mandela appealed for all South Africans to register, saying they should

never take freedom for granted. Recent opinion polls have shown the governing African National Congress easily ahead of any other political party. Politicians from all sides have been campaigning informally since early last

year. Opposition parties try to paint the ANC as corrupt and inefficient, while ANC leaders land their successes in delivering basic services to millions of

Amsterdam Reopens Hearings On 1992 Crash of El Al Cargo Jet

THE HAGUE --- Public hearings into the 1992 crash of an El Al cargo plane in a densely populated Amsterdam suburb resumed Wednesday, with a series of sensitive questions about the fatal flight

According to the official toll, 43 people were killed when a Boeing 747 belonging to the Israeli airline struck a high-rise apartment block in Bijlmer oo Oct. 4, 1992.

Hundreds of residents of the suburb and rescue workers have complained of persistent health problems that they be-lieve are linked to the cargo and depleted uranium used as ballast oo the plane.

Israeli authorities have confirmed that the cargo included the chemical DMMP, which can be used in making sarin nerve gas. But they say the substance is oootoxic and was intended for testing filters that protect against chemical weapons.

The final round of hearings, beginning Wednesday and ending March 12, will address the question of how much senior

Prime Minister Wim Kok and his deputy, Annemarie Jorritsma, and former Transportation Minister Hanja Maij-Weggen are among those the committee is expected to call to testify under oath.

An aviation official gave evidence last month that the authorities heard within half an hour after the disaster that the plane had been carrying a hazardons cargo hut agreed to withhold the information up to avoid a public outery.

Mr. Kok moved swiftly to suspend the officials concerned, but public confidence in the government was shaken.

Mrs. Maij-Weggen, minister of transportation at the time of the crash and oow

Christian Democratic candidate for election to the European Parliament, has said that her civil servants failed to pass on the information that the cargo might be hazardous.

Transportacion, Mrs. Jorritsma, also has been criticized for doing too little to get to the truth of the Bijlmer affair. She has vowed to resign if the inquiry finds cabinet ministers, past and present, knew evidence of mismanagement during her of the disaster and kept to themselves.

Jones. It was Mrs. Tripp, a friend of the

and gave it to prosecutors.
[Ms. Lewinksy's book asserts that the episode regarding the false affidavit "exposed the duhious methods em-ployed by Starr's investigators," The Associated Press reported.

I"Starr's tactics have been a matter for grave public concern," the book says. "The whole exchange about immunity was a waste of time except insofar as it exposed the dubious methods employed by Starr's investigators." The Associated Press obtained excerpts from the book from a source outside the publishing world.]
In his testimony before the House In-

diciary Committee in November, Mr. Starr said Ms. Lewinsky was incorrect that prosecutors had barred her from call-

ing anyone she wanted.
"We made it clear to the witness that
she was, in fact, free to leave," Mr. Starr

Governor Rejects International Pleas For Doomed Killer

Compiled by Our Suff From Disputche

FLORENCE, Arizona - Gov ernor Jane Hull ignored international pleas Wednesday to halt the scheduled execution of the convicted killer Walter LaGrand, a German citizen whose brother was put to death last week for the same crime.

Germany sued Tuesday night in try to hait the execution. The court, which has no enforcement powers and relies on voluntary compliance with its rulings, urged the United States to stay the execution while it considered the appeal.

Bot the governor refused. "In the interest of justice and with the vic-tims in mind, I have decided to allow this execution to go forward as scheduled," she said. As a result, Mr. LaGrand was to go to the gas chamber at 3 P.M.

Later Wednesday, the Interna-tional Court of Justice appealed to the U.S. government to do all it could to press the Arizona state anthorities to call off the execution. Judge Christopher Weeramantry of Sri Lanka, the court's vice president, said that Washingtoo should use "all the measures at its disposal" to prevent the execution.

Foreign Minister Josepha Fischer of Germany attempted several times to have the execution stayed, but Mrs. Hill rehaffed his efforts.

Claudia Roth, who heads the Human Rights Committee in the Bundestag, urged Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on Wednesday to save Mr. LaGrand. She attacked the secretary for fighting "for human rights in China while keeping quiet on the subject in her own country."

She asserted that the United States had violated the Vienna Convention, which guarantees foreign criminals help from their home embassies.

The LaGrand brothers were coo-demned to death in 1984 after a jury coovicted them of stabbing to death a 63-year-old bank manager in a bungled rohbery. They were born in Germany, moved to the United States when they were 4 and 5 years old, and never became U.S. citizens. By German law, they remained Ger-(AP, AFP)

PRIVACY: How Much Do People Need?

Continued from Page 1

able for one purpose there is always pressure from other organizations to use it for their purposes," said Lauren Weinstein, editor of Privacy Forum, an on-line journal.

This week, a programmer in Mas-sachusetts found that identifying numbers can easily be found in word processing and spreadsheet files created with the popular Word and Excel pro-grams and the Windows 95 and 98 opcrating systems by Microsoft Corp.

Moreover, unlike the Intel serial number, which the computer user can con-ceal, the numbers used by the Microsoft programs — found in millions of per-sonal computers — cannot be controlled by the user.

The programmer Richard Smith, president of Phar Lap software, a developer of computer programming tools in Cambridge, Massachusetts, noticed a similar feature in the Windows operating system: a unique registration number stored on each personal computer in a small database known as the Windows re-

His curiosity groused, Mr. Smith investigated further and discovered that the unique oumber on his computer that allows connection to a the network used in most office computing systems, known as the Ethernet, was routinely copied to each Microsoft Word or Excel document he created.

The infrastructure relies a lot on serial numbers," Mr. Smith said. "We've let the genie out of the

identifying number was generated that was likely to be unique. "We need a big oumber, which is a unique identifier," lion small businesses did not plan any he said. "If we didn't have it, it would be impossible to make our software programs work together across networks."

An increasing range of technologies have provisions for identifying their nsers for either technical reasons, like connecting to a network, or commercial ones, like determining which ads to show to Web surfers.

But engineers and network designers argue that identity information is a vital argue that identity information is a vital States, if there were any, likely would aspect of modern security design benot last more than three days. "In this cause it is necessary to anthenticate an individual in a octwork, thereby preventing fraud or intrusion.

Last month at the introduction of In-

tel's powerful Pentium III chip, the company's executives showed more than a dozen data security uses for the serial number contained electronically in each of the chips, ranging from limiting access to protecting documents or software against piracy.
Intel, the world's largest chip maker,

recently backed down somewhat after it in some countries — or that they might was challenged by privacy advocates even prompt terrorist attacks — "fear-over the identity feature, agreeing to ship at least some of the processors for the be imprepared, he said, "that doesn't consumer market in a way that requires necessarily translate into civil unrest." the user to activate the feature:

Far from scaling back its vision, however, Intel said it was planning a wider range of features in its chips to help companies protect copyrighted materials. It also pointed to software ap-plications that would use the embedded number to identify participants in electronic chat rooms on the Internet and thereby protect children agains. Internet

But in achieving those goals, it would also create a universal identifier, which could be used to track computer users wherever they surfed on the World Wide Web. And that, despite the chipmaker's assertions that it is working to enhance security and privacy, has led some privacy advocates to taunt the giant chip maker and accuse it of pursuing a "Big

Brother Inside" strategy.

Intel's decision to forge ahead with identity features in its chip technology may signal a turning point in the battle over privacy in the electronic age. Until now, privacy concerns have generally put industry executives on the defensive. Now questions are being raised about whether there should be limits to privacy in an Internet era.

"Judge Brandeis's definition of privacy was 'the right to be left alone,' not the right to operate in absolute secrecy," said Paul Saffo, a researcher at the Institute for the Future in Menlo Park, California.

Some Silicon Valley engineers and executives have responded that the Intel critics are being naive and have failed to understand that all devices connected to computer networks require identification features simply to function correctly.

Moreover, engineers say that some oetworks require identity numbers to protect against fraud. Each cellular telephone currently has two oumbers. One is the telephone number, which can easily be changed. But a second number, known an electronic serial oumber, is permanently put in place at the factory to protect against theft or fraud. The serial oumber is accessible to the

cellular telephone network, and as celhilar phones add Internet browsing and electronic mail capabilities, it will po-tentially have the same identity capability as the Intel processor serial number. Industry executives say that as the line

between communications and computing becomes increasingly blurred, every electronic device will require some kind of identification to attach to the network. Making those oumbers available to networks that need to pass information

or to find a mobile user and at the same time denying the information to those who wish to gather information into vast databases may be an impossible task.

Privacy advocates argue that even if isolated numbers look harmless, they are harbingers of a trend toward ever-more-invasive surveillance net-

The groups are worried that in the future the government will require ever more invasive hardware modifications to keep track of individuals. Already, they point to the United States' 1994 Communications Assistance for Law. Enforcement Act, which requires that telephone companies modify their network switches to make it easier for gov-

rument wiretappers.
Intel executives insist that their chip is

Intel executives insist that their chip is being misused by privacy groups that have distorted the value of the identifier.

The quandary—that it is almost impossible to compartmentalize information for one purpose so that it cannot be misused—lies at the heart of the argument. Moreover, providing security while at the same time offering anonymity has long been a technical and a political challenge. "We need to find ways to distinguish between security and identity," said James Dempsey, a privacy expert at the Center for Democracy and Technology, a Washington lobbying organization.

BUG: Y2K Chaos for Some

Continued from Page 1

designed to deal with Y2K issues, from providing low-cost government loans to help businesses after computer software to oew laws designed to ward off nuis-

ance litigation.

The Y2K problem stems from the programming practice of using two-digit oumerals in most record-keeping — "99" instead of 1999, for example. As a result, without special adjustments, starting next Jan. 1 computers may read "00" as 1900 instead of 2000, poten-

tially causing some systems to crash.

The report cited the medical industry as farthest behind in the United States in bottle."

Deff Ressler, a Microsoft product manager, said that if a computer did not have an Ethernet adapter, then another identifies and small businesses and that midsize and small businesses

Nevertheless, Mr. Bennett brushed aside predictions that the glitches might spark a global economic recession or leave Americans without cash or food. "This is a moving target," he said,

ooting that industries were continually improving their readiness.
He said that overall assessments sugested that disruptions in the United country, we will have a bump in the road but we will oot be crippled, and it will

not last a very long time," he said.

The committee's assessment drew a mixed reaction from industry experts. Kazim Isfahani, an analyst with Giga Information Services in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said that the panel had done "a good job of pulling everything to-gether" but had not broken new ground.

He termed senators' warnings that disruptions abroad could lead to civil unrest

BRIEFLY

Arafat to Ask U.S. To Aid Statehood

· Praire

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Yasser Arafat will ask President Bill Clinton when they meet this month to formally recognize for the first time the Palestinians' right to statehood, a senior aide said Wed-

nesday.
Such U.S. recognition could be part of a broader international deal under which the Palestinians would agree to postpone a unilateral declaration of independence beyond May 4, when interim peace accords with Israel expire, said Tayeb Abdel Rahim, one of Mr. Arafat's closest advisers.

Palestinian officials said the White House meeting would focus on Palestinian conditions for delaying the declaration, which Israel has warned would lead to a major crisis and potential violence.

Ethiopia Accused Of Using Napalm

ASMARA, Eritrea - The Eritrean news agency accused Ethiopia on Wednesday of dropping napalm on a village on the Western front of the two states' border war, killing one person and injuring another.

other.

Some 150 houses were also burnt when Ethiopian fighter bombers dropped the napalm on Sunday oo the village of Schiambiko, a member of the news agency's staff said. The charge could not be confirmed by independent sources. (AFP)

For the Record

Jordan reopened its embassy in Kuwait on Wednesday, formally ending a break between the two Arab countries that began during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. (AP)

Authorities in Quito, Ecuador, have arrested two police captains for possible negligence in the slay-ing of a Marxist congressman, a judge said. Jaime Huntado, a vocal opponent of President Jamii Mahnad's centrist government, and two assistants were shot to death near Congress by three men. (AP)

Security forces in Havana have released some of the scores of activists who were detained during the sedition trial of four well-known dissidents. The four have been accused of promoting aggressive U.S. policies toward their Communist

DONOR: Ethical Issues Sharpen as a Couple Offers \$50,000 for the Perfect Egg Donor Continued from Page 1

from offers of \$7,500 for donors, makes

them wonder whether the business is getting out of cootrol. The wealthy couple offering \$50,000 wants to remain anonymous, Ms. Pinkerton said. But, she added, they decided to

offer \$50,000 "because they can." The couple also realized that it might

The couple also realized that it might be hard to find a donor who met their criteria. They are "highly educated," Ms. Pinkerton said, and want a child who can be highly educated as well. They are till, so they want a child who is tall. "We have heard that only I percent of the college population is over 5 feet, 10 inches with over 1400 SAT scores," Ms. Dinkerton said. Pinkerton said. Lori Andrews, a professor at Chicago-

sisted-reproduction program at Columbia University's College of Phy-sicians and Surgeons in New York, said that he found women, even Ivy League women, who were willing to donate for

\$5,000. And so, Dr. Sauer asked, why would a couple want to pay \$50,000?

"I can understand the motive for the donor - it's like winning the lottery,"

Dr. Sauer said.
After all, he said, it takes just three to four weeks to produce eggs. The woman

Keot College of Law, is taken aback by the level that payments are reaching. "I think we are moving to children as consumer products," Ms. Andrews said.

"When prices for donors reach \$50,000, it gets to be a meaningful, life-altering sum," Ms. Andrews added.

Dr. Mark Sauer, who directs the assisted-envolution program and the sale assisted pro

But, Dr. Sauer asked, what are the egg recipients thinking when they offer to pay so much for a donor with such specific traits? "What genetic textbook did they read," he asks, that would tell them that they could order up a tall, smart, athletic child by paying \$50,000 for a dooor? Other experts, however, say they fail

to see what is so wrong with looking for specific traits in a donor and paying \$50,000 for them. Dr. Norman Fost, who directs the

get perfect grades and to take endless SAT tatoring courses, or parents who push their children to be superstars in sports. "I don't think that genetic en-gineering is any more pernicious," Dr.

As for the \$50,000 payment to the donor, why not? "It's like offering someone a million dollars to play pro-fessional football," he said: "You are perfectly free to walk away from it. People make these choices all their

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BUSINESS/FINANCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999

ranging from arth-

ritis drugs to genet-

crops. To revive

flagging earnings, the \$9 billion con-

glomerate is trying

to act like a small,

start-up company

favoring teamwork

While some crit-

ics have dismissed

Mr. Shapiro's style

as "New Age man-agement," he says

that a start-up's at-

tributes — being ag-

gressive, entrepre-neurial and quick to

market with new

products - are

needs to compete

with larger rivals such as Novartis

AG and khone-

thought Monsanto

had to set the met-

ronome at a higher

speed to compete,'

"I think Shapiro

Poulenc SA.

Monsanto

spontaneity over bierarchy and

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convention.

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INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

At Monsanto, Can Openness Last?

Casual Style Could Become a Casualty of Talks With Du Pont

By David Barboza New York Times Service

CHICAGO Robert Shapiro, chief executive of Monsanto Co., occupies a modest cubicle on the ninth floor of the Merchandise Mart in downtown Chicago, about 300 miles (500 kilometers) from the com-

pany's headquarters in St Louis. On most days, Mr. Shapiro, 60, arrives m a plaid shirt or a sweater, with khakis, and no tie. Employ-ees call him Bob. In the nearly four years that he has headed the company, for-malities have been dropped at lower levels in the company, too. Discussion, through chall, is encouraged, and nearly all top executives work in cubicles.

"I think it's better to have an open office rather than dark-

wood paneling and cuff links, where there's a message about power and privilege," Mr. Shapiro said in a recent interview. "You want a place that doesn't look like it takes itself too seriously."

Said Tames Without, an analyst with Salomon Smith Barney. "And so they adopted an environment to accomplish that."

But the right environment may not be enough, Monsanto could use a huge infusion of cash after spending more than At the same time that Mr. Shapiro is beating a drum for an

Pont Co., a much larger company with more traditional ways, according to executives who say they have been briefed on the negotiations.

The result has been a peculiar courtship in recent months

deal. Du Pont officials also declined to comment. The talks, according to the executives who say they have officials deferred to "Mr. Stafford." been briefed, are still at a preliminary stage and may go no...... "The two companies did have different cultures, but

further. In June, Monsanto agreed to be acquired by American Home Products Corp. for \$34.4 billion, but that deal fell apart in October. Still, corporate culture is clearly important to Monsanto as it slowly transforms itself from a mical concern to what is called a life-sciences company.

Culture Clash

Monsanto, a life sciences company with a nontraditional approach to corporate life, is said to be in merger discussions with DuPont, the much larger and more traditional chemicals and life sciences



Chief executive Charles Holliday Jr. Headquarters Wilmington, Delaware Total no. of employees Market capitalization \$58 billion 1998 net revenue \$25 billion \$4 billion 1998 net loss 1998 net income

At Monsanto, each **Executives at DuPont** business unit operates usually wear under two co-presidents, traditional business emphasizing a team clothing, but approach. DuPont has a Monsanto's unwritten dress code is set by traditional hierarchical structure with whyte . the example of department heads. Mr. Shapiro, who **DuPont's headquarters** wears sweaters. also has a suite of executive offices, but most shoes. top Monsento executives work out of cubicles.

khakis and casual Sources: Bloomberg Financial Markets;

Chief executive

Total no. of employees

Market capitalization

1998 net revenue

Heedquarters St. Louis, Missouri

COMMUNICATION

differences at the two

companies, both Monsanto and DuPont

Mr. Holliday even has

his own home page on DuPont's intranet.

are heavy users of

Despite other

could use a huge infusion of cash after spending more than \$8 billion in the past few years on acquisitions aimed at open and free-thinking corporate environment, however, he strengthening its agriculture division. And to compete better

Robert Shapiro

\$9 billion

\$250 million

and other executives are in merger negotiations with Du with the giants in life sciences, the company needs a bigger partner, such as Du Pont, Can Mr. Shapiro get Monsanto the size and cash it needs

briefed on the negotiations.

The result has been a peculiar courtship in recent months between the two companies. Mr. Shapiro, these executives say, has been searching for a way for Monsanto to be acquired by Du Pont and retain its special character and habits, with its own compensation and incentive programs and possibly its own stock.

Many analysts are skepocal, especially given their belief that the deal with American Home Products collapsed in large part because Mr. Shapiro and John Stafford, the chief executive of American Home, clashed over who would control the company and how the different ways of doing business would blend. In meetings, one Monsanto official said, the differences were stark; Monsanto employees spoke up and disagreed with "Bob," while American Home officials defeared to "Mr. Stafford."

there was also a CEO ego conflict," said William Fiala, an analyst with Edward Jones & Co.

But Du Pont may want to strike a deal with Monsanto.

See MANAGER Page 14

When Parting Creates a Greater Sum

Spin-offs often

outperform the

parent company

By Tim Smart Washington Post Service

America — and investors are cheering.

Hewlett-Packard Co. this week became the latest company to spin off a part of its business, dividing its computer and scientific equipment units into two publicly traded entities. The California company joins such corporate titans as AT&T Corp., ITT Corp., PepsiCo Inc. and DuPont Co. in trying to revamp its business by chopping it into smaller

'We've seen a lot of this going on the last four years," said Joseph Cornell, president of Spin-Off Advisors, a Chicago firm that advises institutional investors. "Many times the parts are worth more than the

That proved to be the case with AT&T, which spun off its Bell Labs research arm to shareholders in April 1996 as Lucent Techand the market. nologies Inc. The offspring has outper-

formed the parent since then, with Lucent being among the lowing among new analysts who begin touting the new standout performers among high-technology stocks of late. AT&T, meanwhile, has pursued a more focused strategy since and its stock bas also been a strong performer.

Last year, there were 21 spin-offs among U.S. companies, which raised \$13.3 billion for the parent companies, according to Securities Data Co. In 1997 there were 33, but they only raised \$6.7 hillion. So far this year, there have been six breakups announced, excluding Hewlett-Packard, with a total value of \$2.2 billion.

Spin-offs are popular because they are a tax-free way to grant existing shareholders a dividend in the form of addioonal stock in the newly formed company. Companies can create a complete spin-off, in which case shareholders usually receive one share in the new company for each share owned in the parent, or they can create "equity carve-outs" where they sell a portion of the company to the public in a

new stock offering.
That is what General Motors Corp. did last month when it sold 17.7 percent of its Delphi auto parts division to the public, raising \$1.7 billion, and it is what Hewlett-Packard plans to do with an initial public offering this fall of 15 percent of the new scientific equipment company.

Management experts said a company spinning off portions of its business can concentrate resources and capital on its WASHINGTON — It's splitsville across Corporate sink or swim on their own. Often, managers in the new company are given new stock options and other incentives to encourage them to perform. The parent company also benefits if it does a partial spin-off by raising cash through the initial public offering.

'The primary objective is really to increase shareholder value of the whole entity," said Rick Escherich, a managing director at J. P. Morgan & Co. who has studied spin-offs. "The two pieces should trade at a higher value than the single entity. What's mit for the parent is in

total a higher stock price."
A study Mr. Escherich did in 1997 of 104 spin-offs found they outperformed the overall market by several percentage points.

Stuart Gilson, a Harvard Business School accounting professor, said spin-offs allow Wall Street to more narrowly focus its analysis, and that encourages a fol-

companies can redeploy it more efficiently.

Mr. Gilson said that academic analysis suggests spin-offs are a way to circumvent the inevitable "pricing inefficiency" that can creep into a stock's value, when an underperforming

mit drags down the overall company's worth. Travis Engen was executive vice president of ITT when it separated into three companies in 1996. An unwieldy conglomerate spanning life insurance, casinos and auto-motive parts, ITT's manufacturing businesses were unable to raise capital for acquisitions for fear the additional debt would burt the insurance unit's ratings, Mr. Engen said.

But as chairman of the new ITT Industries, which is concentrated in industrial and defense manufacturing, Mr. Engen has been free to do sizable deals, including a \$900 million purchase of a rival pump maker, as well as sell off some businesses. "In a certain way, my job got easier," Mr.

Engen said. Analysts said the pressure on management from institutional shareholders has gotten more intense in recent years, forcing companies and their boards of directors to continually re-evaluate their business strategies.

Hong Kong to Try Deficit Spending, **But Analysts See Limited Benefits**

By Thomas Crampton International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG - Facing the worst recession in more than a generation, the Hong Kong government Wednesday unveiled a grab bag of stimulus measures, including deficit spending and a possible Disney theme park.

"The whole thrust of this budget is to create new economic opportunioes." Financial Secretary Donald Tsang said while delivering the government's budget for the coming fiscal year. "I do not want Hong Kong people to lose faith in themselves and I must help them out of the most difficult economic times they have faced in 40 years."

Mr. Tsang said Hong Kong had been hit worse than expected by the Asian financial crisis and that the economy had shrunk 5.1 percent in 1998. He predicted growth of 0.5 percent this year.

'This analysis depends on the external economic situation turning more favorable," Mr. Tsang said. "The signs are that we have passed the worst of this

But analysts quesconed that assertion, adding that the measures announced Wednesday would do little to revive the

есопошу. bank, who spoke on condition of an-onymity, called the budget a "soggy

disappointment."

"This budget simply will not inspire the deflation needed to make this economy competitive," the economist said.

I was boping for some clear message, like a steep civil service pay cut." Mr. Tsang did announce a halt on civil service hiring and a pay freeze.

Unlike many countries across Asia that have seen sharp currency devaluations increase their economic competitiveness and attractiveness to investors. Hong Kong has opted to keep its currency pegged to the dollar and to rely on falling prices to regain a competitive

advantage.

But price changes have been slow to work their way down, badly hurting such mainstays of the economy as retail spending and tourism.

Mr. Tsang said the government would Disney and Cyberport projects are nice, nies, it will be good for investors in Hong sell off a stake in the territory's Mass hut it won't turn around the economy in Kong," Mr. Tsang said.



CHINA-BOUND? — Kong confirmed Wednesday that Disney is in talks on building a theme park there. Page 19.

Transit Railway Corp. and press forward with negoriations to build a Disney theme park on a landfill on Lantau Island (Page 19)

Such a theme park would attract tourconomy. ists to Hong Kong and provide thou-The chief economist of one major sands of jobs for young people just out of scbool as well as recently unemployed middle aged workers, Mr. Tsang said.

For Walt Disney Co., which had been weighing building the park near Shanghai, Hong Kong offers a central location with few visa hassles for visitors of many nationalities. It would also allow easy access to Chinese consumers who have sbown an appeole for Disney's stable of animated characters.

A final decision on whether to build the park in Hong Kong will be made by June 30, Mr. Tsang said, and construction would start within a year, with the first phase operational by 2005.

Hong Kong will also pursue devel-opment of a nearly \$2 billion "Cyberport" to bouse more than 100 high-tech companies, Mr. Tsang said. The planned deficit spending includes increases in social welfare programs.

"The theme of jobs growth set by the

the next year or so," said Anil Daswani, head of Hong Kong research at Salomon Smith Barney. "The basis of the budget was a little too optimistic." Mr. Daswani said, adding that he expected Hong Kong's economy to shrink by 2 percent

Mr. Tsang also announced a financial services overhaul that includes the merger of Hong Kong's stock and futures markets within the next seven months.

The changes, which are expected to be opposed by the 650 brokers on the two exchanges, are necessary to ensure Hong Kong's posicion as a regional financial

center, Mr. Tsang said.
"I do not underestimate the difficulties ahead," Mr. Tsang said. "We
need to balance the interests of stakeholders, but the status quo is not an

option for Hong Kong."
Singapore, Hong Kong's tradicional rival, recently announced a merger of

several financial markets. Mr. Tsang did not offer a reduction in lax raies, as many in Hong Kong had hoped, but he did propose a one-time 10 percent refund on 1998 taxes paid for salaries, profits and property, which he said would return 10 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$77 billion) to taxpayers.

'This, taken together with the extended freeze on government fees and charges and reduction in other business costs, should help us take the first steps on

the road to economic recovery," he said.
Government revenue, hard hit by the economic downturn, bad forced Hong Kong into a budget deficit of 33.2 billion Hong Kong dollars in 1998, Mr. Tsang said, the territory's sixth deficit in more

than a half-century.

The position will deteriorate further in 1999, with a deficit of 36.5 billion dollars, but the budget should be in the black by 2001, Mr. Tsang said.

Starting in 2001, the government will raise 30 billion dollars from sale of a minority stake in its wholly owned commuter railroad, Mr. Tsang said.

The privatization will raise cash and allow residents to share in one of Hong Kong's best companies, Mr. Tsang said.
"It will be good for the market, it will be good for the management of compa-

Goldman Is Reviving Plan to Go Public

Group LP managers agreed Wednesday to revive a plan to sell shares in the 130year-old firm, the richest Wall Street investment bank.

The 220 partners are expected to approve the proposal in a vote Monday. That would lead to the filing of a prospectus with the Securities and Exchange Commission this month and a sale of a 10 percent to 15 percent stake hy summer, the firm said. Partners' stakes could be worth as much as \$109 million each.

Last September the firm called off a sale after global markets plunged, securities firms' shares fell more than 60 percent and the industry posted a thirdquarter loss. Since then, markets have rebounded, and so have profits.

"We have recommended that the firm become a public company," Henry Paulson and Jon Corzine, co-chairmen, said in a statement. The reasons match those of last year, they said, including the nced for stock to pay for "strategic acquisitions we may select in the future."

NEW YORK — Goldman Sachs agement committee "unanimously en- valuation as they would at the peak last dorsed" the plan to sell shares. When the year," Mr. Soifer said. sale was initially proposed last June, analysts valued the firm at about \$30 hillion based on its partners' capital and the stock prices of comparable rivals such as Merrill Lynch & Co. and Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Discover & mergers during the three months that

> "This is a much better time than last fall would have been," said Raphael Soifer, a securities industry analyst at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. "There will be a lot of interest in the issue, but it depends on the price."

Goldman will probably fetch less now than when it had inically planned to sell shares. Morgan Stanley's shares, for example, are trading at about 3.8 times the firm's book value, compared with 4.4 last July.

of November, Goldman is worth about \$24 billion. A 15 percent stake would raise about \$3.6 billion.

The firm said its 15-member man- "It's unlikely they will get as high a

Goldman earned more than \$1 hillion in its fiscal first quarter, people familiar with the firm said last week, as the company profited from a market rally ended Sunday.

Earnings before taxes and partners' pay beat the \$1.02 billion profit posted in the 1998 period and could exceed the record \$1.04 billion in pretax profit from last year's second quarter, the people said.

That was far above the fourth quarter. when profit fell \$1 percent, to \$107 million — Goldman's worst three months since 1994 — as the firm lost hundreds of millions trading bonds.

Russia's default and currency devaluation in August triggered a rout Using the current mulople and Gold-man's partners' capital of \$6.3 hillion as other high yield debt. Goldman was vulnerable because it gets almost half its revenue from trading and investing its

U.S. Lawmakers Target the Concorde

WASHINGTON - The House of Representatives voted Wednesday to ban supersonic Concorde aircraft flights to the United States if the European Union goes through with a plan that would effectively bar older Boeing Co. aircraft from operating in Europe.

The European Parliament recommended banning the use of airplanes retrofitted with noise-reduction devices

known as husb kits starting in 2002.

The move is a "thinly veiled attempt to give a competitive advantage to EU aircraft and engine manufacturers." said Representative James Oberstar, the Minnesota Democrat who was the chief sponsor of the bill.

The hill, which has yet to be approved by the Senate, would affect four flights daily by the supersonic Concorde, two operated by British Airways from London and two by Air France from Paris. British Airways condemned the U.S. move.

"BA is an innocent bystander in what is clearly a matter for the European Union and the U.S. government to resolve," a spokesman said. "It is grossly unfair and wrong to take reprisal actions against innocent airlines and their customers because of legislation which is being brought in by the European Union and which is outside their control.

The Commerce Department says the hush-kit han would hurt sales of more than \$1 billion in U.S. products including aircraft engines and hush kits made by manufacturers such as Boeing Co., General Electric Co. and Pratt & Whitney.
The ban, if carried out by EU transport ministers, coold

cause the resale value of about 1,000 older Boeing planes, which have the hush kit mufflers, to plummet by as much as 20 percent, the U.S. government estimates. New aircraft made by Boeing, which have quieter engines, would not be affected by the ban.

The House approved the Concorde ban by voice vote after Democrats and Republicans railed against the EU proposal in a brief and one-sided debate. The vote came as European lawmakers offered to

postpone endorsement of their hush-kit ban to provide

more time to negotiate with the United States. (Bloomberg, AFP)



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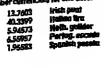
CURRENCY RATES

March 3 Other Dollar Values **Cross Rates** Per S Correacy S E SF Yen CS Dame Greek Sweete Agent, pers 0,999 Hangs forthat 20,95 Hangs from 22,51 Hangs forthat 20,01 Hangs from 22,51 Hangs forthat 20,01 Hangs from 22,51 Hangs from 22,5 London (a) New York (b) Tokyo 1.0899 0.6723 1.5926 132.18 1.6615 7.4345 321.68 8.59 1.3763 0.8555 2.015 165.297 2.092 9.4057 407.696 11.3995

a: To buy one pounds is: To buy one dollar: "Per 10th N.Q. not quoteds N.A.; not crollable."

SDR: Special drawing rights at the IMF. Sources: Bank at Takyo-Milaubishi (Tokya); Royat Bank of Cauada (Taro-France leurol) IMF (SDR), Other data from Reutics.

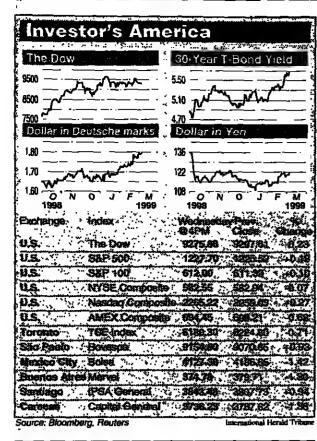
Euro Values Fixed roles of the EALU III



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THE AMERICAS



Very briefly:

 General Motors Corp. sold 17.5 percent more vehicles in February than it sold a year earlier. Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerCbrysler AG each sold 8 percent more vehicles.

· Kellogg Co., the world's largest maker of breakfast cereals, said five top executives - including Jean-Louis Gourbin. 51, president of the European operations - are leaving in a management reorganization.

 Republic Industries Inc. will sell its 63.9 percent stake in the trash bauler Republic Services Inc. in a public offering instead of distributing the stock to its own shareholders.

• General Electric Co., blaming the Asian economic slump and the loss of a multibillion-dollar contract to a rival, will lay off 200 jet-engine production workers at its plant in Lynn, Massachusetts, The Boston Globe reported.

 Kmart Corp., the No. 2 U.S. discount retailer, earned \$353 million in the quarter to Jan. 27, up from \$186 a year ago, when results included a \$114 million charge relating to a voluntary early retirement program. Sales rose to \$10.4 billion from \$9.75 billion a year ago. AFX, AP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Concentra Agrees to a Buyout

BOSTON - Concentra Managed Care Inc., a provider of health care cost-control services, said Wednesday that it had agreed to be acquired by the investment firm Welsb, Carson, Anderson & Stowe for about \$1.1 billion in cash and debt.

Concentra shareholders will receive \$16.50 in cash for each share. The shares closed Wednesday at \$14.6875, up \$3.0625. - Welsh Carson, which already owns a 14.9 percent stake in the company, plans to acquire stock giving it 93 percent of Concentra's outstanding shares and will seek an outside

investor to buy the remaining 7 percent.

Concentra said in October that it was considering its options after falling sbort of performance goals.

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

AMEX

NYSE

AMEX

Wall Street Wobbles After Profit Warning From 3Com

Compiled by Our Staff From Disprache NEW YORK - Stocks were mixed Wednesday as a profit warning by 3Com caused concern that company earnings do not justify the level of share prices.

'The market is coming down for variety of reasons: overvaluations and higher interest rates," said Stanlev Nabi, chief investment officer at DLJ Investment Management. "In the kind of economic environment we have now, earnings growth should be explosive. It isn't.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 21.73 points lower at 9,275.88, but broader indexes managed to gain a little ground. The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 2.20 points, to 1,227.70, and the Nasdaq Composite index rose 6.19 points, to 2,265.22. Declining issues outnumbered advancing ones on the 61/2 to 221/2 after the Internet com-

New York Stock Exchange by a 4m-3 ratio.

3Com, which sells equipment for data, voice and video networks, was

U.S. STOCKS

the most active stock on U.S. markets. It fell 2 7/16 to 24 9/16 after announcing late Tuesday that thirdquarter earnings from ongoing op-erations would be far below analysts' estimates.

The company blamed an "un-expected slowdown" in sales to businesses in the United States and South America.

There were some bright spots in the technology sector. Intel rose 4% to 114 11/16, and Compaq Computer rose 1 11/16 to 335%.

Cyberian Outpost stock surged

puter-products retailer said it expected to report an increase in fourth-quarter revenue, to \$33 mil-

lion from \$8.1 million a year ago.
Treasury bond prices fell after the National Association of Purchasing Management said its index of nonmanufacturing activity rose to 57 in February, from 54 in January. The group's index of nonmanufacturing prices eased to 46.5 from 47.

The price of the benchmark 30-year issue fell 1 3/32 to 93 20/32, pushing its yield up to 5.69 percent from 5.61 percent.

supplies sent crude-oil futures higher, Exxon rose % to 65 11/16 and Chevron gained 2 3/16 to 77%. Crude oil for April delivery rose 42 cents to \$12.93 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after the American Petroleum Institute reported that U.S. in-

week. Oil is up 20 percent from a 12year low reached in December.

Shares in the retailers Kmart, Tiffany, TJX rose after all three companies reported earnings that were better than analysts expected. (Bloomberg, AP)

■ Greenspan's Testimony

Alan Greenspan reiterated on Wednesday his opposition to President Bill Clinton's plan to invest Social Security funds in the stock

market, news agencies reported.
Testifying before Congress, the chairman of the Federal Reserve said, Investing the Social Security trust funds in equities does little or nothing to improve the overall ability of the U.S. economy to meet the retirement needs of the next century." Mr. Greenspan said government

ventories unexpectedly declined last investment in stocks would not produce the returns expected, could impair pricing of stocks and would be subject to political influence.

He said he favors using the budget surplus to pay down debt or to pay for reforms to the Social Security program, either of which could increase total savings by gov-

erament and individuals. The large surpluses projected over the next 15 years, if they ac-tually materialize, would significantly reduce the fiscal pressures created by our changing demo-graphics," Mr. Greenspan said.

"Whichever direction the Congress chooses to go, whether toward privatization or fuller funding of social security, augmenting our national saving rate has to be the main objective," he said.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

RJR Puts International Tobacco Unit Up for Sale

the company is seeking to sell its international tobacco operations and has received bids from at least five other companies, including Philip Morris Cos.

The executive, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday that a winning bidder could emerge as early as this week, but added that the process could go on for longer.

Investors and analysts said the move was an effort to stave off an anticipated move by the financier Carl leahn to wrest control of the No. 2 U.S. ciparette maker.

Mr. Icahn is expected to submit a slate of proposed directors to RJR's lomon Smith Barney Inc., said RJR board by a proxy filing deadline on was likely to announce a transaction

NEW YORK — An executive of RJR Nabisco Holdings Corp. said the company's shares, it would be his third bid in four years for control of the company.

Mr. Icahn wants RJR to spin off its 80.6 percent stake in Nabisco Holdings Corp., separating the food unit from the legal uncertainty surrounding RJR's tobacco business. RJR says tobacco litigation prevents such a move, and analysts say the company might soon sell or find a partner for its international tobacco unit to placate Mr. Icahn and other investors. "Are investors impatient? Abso-

lutely," said Timothy Ghriskey, a portfolio manager at Dreyfus Corp. Martin Feldman, an analyst at Sa-

by its May 12 annual meeting. Mr. Icahn could not be reached for

RIR's stock has dropped 19 per-cent in the past year. The shares closed at \$27.625 on Wednesday, down 25 cents.

RJR has seen disappointing results from its international tobacco operations in recent years. To offset falling cigarette sales in both Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet

to reduce operations. Philip Morris and BAT Industries PLC, a British tobacco company.

RJR executives say a renewed

battle with Mr. Icahn appears cer-tain. A filing by Mr. Icahn would follow two failed attempts to win control of the maker of Winston and Camel cigarettes in 1995 and 1996. when he also amassed RJR shares and pressed the company to spin off the food unit, the largest U.S. maker of cookies and crackers.

Some major shareholders said they were concerned RJR might sell the international tobacco unit for a low

Union, it has taken a number of steps price simply to appease Mr. Icahn.
"We don't want to see a knee-jerk While the company is the second-largest U.S. domestic producer of cigarettes, it has lagged in the in-ternational market behind both Dreman Value Management. He said the unit was worth about \$6 billion, incloding \$2.4 billion in (NYT, Bloomberg)

Jones Set To Buy **Nine West**

New York Times Service NEW YORK - Jones Apparel Group Inc., a leading women's clothing company, said it would acquire Nine West Group, one of the largest U.S. shoe companies, in a deal valued at nearly \$900 million.

The deal announced late Tuesday, for \$26 a share in cash and stock for Nine West's shareholders, will combine two giants that market women's retail apparel to many of the same customers: women who are willing to pay moderate to high prices.

It will also force Jones Apparel, a New York-based company that sells suits, dresses and sportswear under such brands as Jones New York and Evan Picone, to quickly master the business of footwear.

Jones will also take on problems now faced by Nine West, including slowing sales and an investigation by the into the company's pricing practices.

Dollar Firms as Japan Maneuvers Rates Close to Zero

Computed by Our Staff From Disputation

Pushing the overnight loan rate between banks as

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against the yen low as 0.02 percent. More money in the banking to 140 yen by the end of the year,

The euro was little changed shead of a meeting of the rose was little changed shead of the rose was little c Wednesday after Japan drove money-market rates close to zero, widening the divide between yen- and dollar-denominated deposits.

Japan remains mired in a year-long recession. "What we're seeing is general dollar strength because the U.S. is doing so well," said Bob Gruber, a senior currency trader at Chase Manhattan who predicted further dollar gains

(\$3.33 billion) to the banking system Wednesday, pretty poor."

The dollar rose to 121.815 yen in 4 P.M. trading

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The gap reflects a booming U.S. economy while system could help reduce long-term borrowing costs to speed recovery. But at the same time, it erodes the return on ven-denominated deposits and could cause domestic and international investors to avoid Japanese assets.

Lower rates will boost the value of the dollar against the yea," said Ian Morris, an economist at HSBC in London. "Ultimately the yen will have to from 120.215 yen Tuesday.

The Japanese central bank added 400 billion yen

HSBC in London. Unimately the yen with have to reflect Japan's fundamentals—and they're looking

the European Central Bank scheduled for Thursday. Most analysts expect the bank to leave interest rates unchanged. The euro slipped to \$1.0883 from

The pound fell to \$1.6140 from \$1.6157, while Federal Trade Commission the dollar rose to 1.4600 Swiss francs from 1.4565

The Brazilian currency weakened as banks and companies bought dollars to repay about \$640 companies bought dollars to repay about \$625 cents, while Jones Apparel finished at \$22.875, (Bloomberg, AFP) down \$3.0625. 2.14 reals from 2.10 reals.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES High Low Latesi Chigo Opin High Low Latest Chae Opins ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15.000 Rts.- Cents por fb. Aker 99 86.90 86.00 86.00 1,00 1,688 Aker 99 82.75 80.00 81,85 unch. 16.303 Jul 99 82.25 80.75 81,65 0.45 5,159 Sep 99 82.10 81,25 81,55 +0.60 2,219 Est. Seites 1A. Tuers selles 2,181 Tuers open ing 27.942, up 532 ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) 1, 200 metion - pts of 100 pct for 99 N.A. N.A. 111.59 -0.23 24.933 LIBOR 1-MONTH (CMER) \$3 million: pts of 100 pct.

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12.5 million yen, 5 per 100 yen
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MANAGER: Monsanto Style

Continued from Page 13

Both companies are focusing on life sciences. Du Pour, which has a small pharmaceuticals division, wants to expand its drug business, while Monsanto's G.D. Searle & Co. unit is a small but

force, with strong cancer and arthritis drugs. While it is unclear whether Monsanto's insistence on doing things differently is encouraging or hindering a big merger, its quaproach has so far done little for the bottom line.

After years of spectacular earnings gains, the company faltered in 1998. Heavy research spending and a string of high-priced acquisitions in the seed business saddled the company with a huge debt load. Earnings suffered, and heavy reorganization charges and layoffs were announced. The stock tumbled in October after the deal with American Home Products collapsed, and it has been treading water ever since. On Wednesday, its shares were rose \$2.375 on the New York Stock Exchange, to close at \$46.75, and some cited the talks

with Du Pont as a reason. Nearly four years after taking over as chief executive, Mr. Shapiro has refashioned Monsanto as an open and freethinking company, executives there say.

In addition to abolishing executives smices, he instituted flexible work schedules and work locations, including his own. Each business unit has co-presidents. He has encouraged free discussion, even something he calls an "underground newsletter" — a computer site where employees can post their thoughts about the company anonymously. Some experts question whether Monsanto can remain Monsanto if the company is acquired. "If history is any guide, that cubicle thing may be short-lived," said Thomas Lys, a mergers specialist at Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management.

Still, the company's special qualities could survive a merger—and perhaps even survive Mr. Shapiro. "This is not an expression of Shapiro's philosophy," Mr. Shapiro said. "This is a business philosophy of how you make money in life sciences. And in a Darwinian world, this culture will prevail."

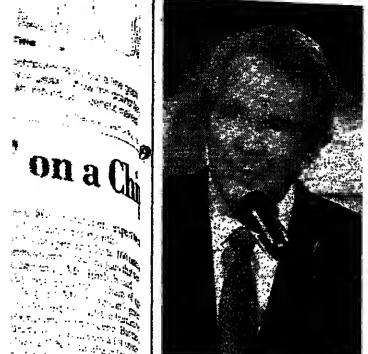
INTEREST RATES

Wednesday, March 3 Money Market Rates 41/4 774 474 4.94 4.83 Dollar Euro Sierling Yen Sir Franc 39-day 1.6172 1.5263 1.0935 120.83 1.4574



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TV Evangelist Puts His Faith in the Bank of Scotland



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Pat Robertson, 700 Club co-bost, expresidential candidate and, perhaps, partner with the Bank of Scotland. By David Cay Johnston New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Pat Robertson, the religious broadcaster who built a fortune from businesses affiliated with his ministry and ran for president in 1988, now wants to go into the banking industry.

Mr. Robertson and the Bank of Scotland have applied for a charter to operate a new national bank in the United States that will customers by phone and mail, as the Bank of Scotland already does in Britain.

The same model is used for dealing with donors to Mr. Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network and his political arm, the Christian Coalition.

The bank hopes to begin accepting deposits in three or four months and to issue credit cards and mortgages later, said Tom Smellie, a spokesman for the Bank of Scotland. The new bank has not yet been named, Mr. Smellie said, but it will not include either Scotland or Mr. Robertson's name in the title.

Mr. Robertson, founder and chairman of the Christian Coalition, will be "a very significant minority shareholder" in the bank and will be chairman of its American holding company, said C.A. Volder 3d, a spokesman for Robertson Financial Services, the unit that

is investing in the new bank. Several banking experts said the arrange-

even a small part of the vast audience that advantage." A big expense in operating a bank, regularly tunes into Mr. Robertson's daily he added, is simply getting the word ont.

"If you are Citibank with its phenomenal 700 Club."

Mr. Volder said that the bank would not advertise on "The 700 Club" and that neither the program's mailing list nor the Christian Coalition's would be used to solicit bank business. "Of course the fact that he is endorsing the product is important," Mr. Volder have no branches but will instead deal with said, "and his co-host may say, 'Dr. Robertson, I hear you are going into the banking business,' and ask him about it."

In some ways, the bank, which is not expected to face major obstacles to regulatory approval, would be a natural extension of Mr.

Robertson's existing operations, analysts said.
"Essentially, he is a bank on the deposit Manhattan Consulting Group, which advises financial institutions on marketing. "He is one of the biggest fund-raisers in the U.S. between his religious, political and charitable in-

"Although he will be going after the same people, he is trying to get a bigger share of their wallets. So today he may get \$50 or \$150 as a gift, but he is looking to get \$2,000 and \$3,000 and \$4,000 in deposits."

Eric Hartz, chief operating officer of Security First Network Bank, which operates over the Internet and has one office, in Atlanta, you.'

ment could be highly successful if it tapped said that "not having brick and mortar is a great

branch network, you just drop brochures in all the branches to tell people how to reach you,"
Mr. Hartz said. "Bank of Scotland can accomplish this by tearning with Robertson, who has a pretty strong followership."

The idea for the deal grew out of a business loan that Mr. Robertson sought in June from the Bank of Scotland, which has \$4 billion of commercial loans in the United States. He learned that the bank had attracted about 800,000 customers to its phone business, which it started in 1997 in partnership with J. Sainsbury PLC, the British grocery store chain.

Mr. McMahon and others said that Mr. Robertson's high public profile could be a side already," said Seamus McMahon of First liability for American banks with established names, but not for a foreign bank seeking to enter the U.S. market.

Over the years, Mr. Robertson has made remarks that have drawn complaints from gay activists and members of other minority

Last year, for example, he took note of banners welcoming gay people to theme parks in Orlando, Florida, and said: "I would warn Orlando that you're right in the way of some serious hurricanes, and I don't think I'd be waving those flags in God's face if I were

Peugeot Posts

Profit for '98

PARIS - PSA Peugent Citroen

said Wednesday that it returned to

profit in 1998, reporting net con-

solidated earnings of 3.18 billion

francs (\$571.9 million) after a loss

of 2.77 billion francs a year earlier.

The French automaker said it ex-

pected to improve its results further

this year despite an expected 2 per-

cent fall in the European car market. Peugent's results were in line with

analysts' forecasts; its shares fell

2.80 euros to close at 116.30 euros

"We are looking at the possib-

ilities, and if we find an interesting

one, we will grab it," be said.

(\$126.53) on the Paris Bourse.

Investor's Europe London FTSE 100 Index CAC 40 4100-ONDJEM. 2000 ONDJEM Wednesday Prev. Close Close C Exchange 519.16 526.09 AEX 3,294.41 3,304.33 -0.30 BEL-20 DAX 4,697,67 4,804,02 -2.23 503.28 - 599.77 +0.59 Coperhagen Stock Market 6,119.33 -5.065,28 -+1.06 HEX General 554.57 525.39 7 4).75 Gela " " FTSE 100 6,048.30 8,061.30 -0.2 London Madrid 867.58 877.01 -1.08 Stock Exchange 23399 23746 -1.58 4.004.16 4.048.53 -1.18 CAC 40 4,021.04 4,054.72 40.58 1.152.07 1.156.16 -0.35 Viecens : ATX

Very briefly:

 Canary Wharf Ltd., which announced plans to float stock this week, received a boost when Citigroup Inc. said its corporate and investment banking businesses would occupy about half of a 42-story tower that will soon be under construction at the London site.

Psion PLC's net income more than doubled in 1998, to £18.7 million (\$30.2 million), from £7.7 million a year earlier on a one-time pretax gain of £11.4 million from the sale of rights in the Symbian project, a mobile-phone software venture. The British maker of palmtop computers cautioned that profit in 1999 would suffer from costs related to Symbian.

The Bank of England ended a five-month run of interest rate cuts and kept its benchmark rate unchanged. The rate, at 5.5 percent, is at its lowest level since 1994 after the bank cut it by 2 percentage points in successive steps since October.

· Norway cut its key interest rates by a half-point each, the second reduction this year, to bolster demand in a slowing economy after employers and labor unions agreed Tuesday to moderate wage growth this year. The central bank cut its deposit rate to 7 percent from 7.5 percent and its overnight lending rate to 9 percent from 9.5 percent.

 Heineken NV's net income rose 29 percent last year, to 445 million euros (\$486.6 million), beating expectations, as higher sales, consolidation and a better product mix offset higher marketing expenses.

· Norway plans to cut its stake in Christiania Bank ASA, the country's second-largest bank, to about a third from 51 ercent this month in one of the country's biggest share sales. The Government Bank Investment Fund of Norway said it would sell up to 90 million shares in the bank, or about 16 percent, between Monday and March 19. Bloomberg, Reuters.

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The House of the Control of the Cont Telecom Italia Battens Down

Bloomberg News

MILAN — Telecom Italia SpA said Wednesday that its chief financial officer, Fulvio Conti, had quit and that Giovanni Stella would take over as financial director.

Franco Bernabe, Telecom Italia's chief executive, will assume Mr. Conti's functions as director-general. But Mr. Conti will remain as head of Finsiel, Telecom's software division, which may be sold as part of Mr. Bernabe's plans to

focus on telephones and phone service.

The moves increase Mr. Bernabe's control over the world's sixth-largest telephone company as he fights a hostile \$58 billion takeover offer from Olivetti SpA. Telecom Italia also is exploring buying the 40 percent of Telecom Italia Mobile SpA that it doesn't already own, a move that would increase the company's value by about \$18 billion and raise the stakes for Olivetti.

Tieto of Finland to Buy Rival

HELSINKI -Tieto Oyj of buy a Swedish rival in computer services, Enator AB, for about \$1 billion in stock to increase its competitiveness in a region that boasts the world's highest rate of computer and Internet usage.

analyst at Carnegie Securities in Helsinki. Other analysts agreed, "This

is a case where one plus one equals more than two, because Tieto gets access to Enator's customers and markets and vice Tietoenator will have a strong versa," said Michael Schroder, an analyst at Opstock.

price before the offer. The new company, to be called

Tietoenator, will vie with Merkantiklata ASA of Norway for the No. 2 position in the Nor-"The two businesses make a very good fit; their strategies are the same," said Visa Manninen, analyst at Carnegie Securities in WM-data AB of Sweden, which expects that the Nordic market will grow as much as 15 percenta vear. Sweden invests 3 percent of its economic output in the in-

market position in the fastestgrowing businesses, like telecom-Tieto is offering 0.725 of a munications and finance," said share for each one in Enator. Viking Kjellstroem, an analyst at

Based on Tuesday's close, that HSBC Securities in Stockholm. values Enstor at 250.80 Swedish Tieto shares rose 2.40 euros HELSINKI —Tieto Oyj of values Enstor at 250.80 Swedish Tieto shares rose 2.40 euros to Finland agreed Wednesday to kronor (\$30.40) a share, or a 7.6 40.80 (\$44.39) euros Wednespercent premium to its market day, while Egator jumped 18 kronor to 251 kronor.

The combined company would have a market value of about \$3.1 billion and, like Merkantildata, annual sales of \$1.2 billion.

While Tieto is known for its services to the financial industry. including products such as securities trading systems and portfolio management systems, Enator is benefiting more from an increase in communications services, which account for 20 percent of the company's sales.
"Both have finished products

that now get access to a larger market," Mr. Schroeder said. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

Jean-Martin Folz, the company's chairman, told reporters that the company was considering mergers or acquisitions in Europe and else-

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How Investors Allocate Assets Can Be More Important Than What Stocks or Bonds They Buy

would have guessed that interest rates on five-year U.S. Treasury notes would shoot up nearly a full point in just six eyeeks? Who could have predicted that small-capitalization stocks would continue to plummet in 1999 while megacap shares kept soaring? Or that the nottest equity market would be India? othat's the point. Smart investors don't try out of kilter as one sector booms while to forecast sectors of financial markets. Instead, they diversify, spreading their emoney around in a reasonable way to

profit from the rises and avoid being crushed by the declines. O' This process is called asset allocation. and research shows that it's more important than which individual stocks or bonds you pick. The process has two functions: first, to reduce risk while \$10,000; emerging-market stocks, keeping returns high, and second, to theet your own needs.

The precise division of your assets Can't come from a book or a computer. It such as emerging-market stocks, actuwith your spouse, financial adviser, Inc., a New York company that tracks broker or accountant. Take into account your age, income, cash requirements and spolerance for risk, plus about a half-

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TASHINGTON - Who JAMES K. GLASSMAN / ON INVESTING

you're 60 and plan to be living off your investment income in five years, then the bulk might go to Treasury bonds

But let's assume you have sensibly allocated your assets. Don't forget to reallocate them. Every few years, check US No one could have known — and to be sure the categories have not gotten another goes bust.

Let's imagine a simple portfolio com-posed of mutual funds, with dividends and capital gains reinvested. The portfolio was set up five years ago with \$100,000 and allocated like this:

Large-cap stocks, \$40,000, or 40 percent; small-cap stocks, \$10,000; tech stocks, \$10,000; international stocks, \$10,000; Treasury bonds, \$20,000.

Over the past five years, some cat-egories grew faster than others; some, is a personal decision you should make ally fell. Using statistics from Lipper mutual-fund performance, I calculated that the portfolio at the end of February would have looked like this:

and 20 percent to foreign stocks. But if (3 percent); Treasury bonds, \$27,365 3 percent). Total: \$210,500.

The portfolio gained a delicious 110.5 percent, but its categories are now out of whack. The top three groups (domestic stocks) now represent 77 percent of the portfolio, up from 60 percent; foreign stocks, 10 percent, down from 20 per-cent; and bonds, 13 percent, down from

It's clearly time to rebalance. Take large-cap stocks: 40 percent of \$210,500 is about \$84,200, but the large-cap holdings are now \$117,880. So the portfolioholder should sell \$33,680 worth of large-cap shares and use about half the money to buy emerging-market funds, which should represent 10 percent of the portfolio, or \$21,050, rather than 3 percent that is \$6,315. Continue with the

other groups.

The premise of this kind of rebalancing is that you want to keep your assets in approximately the same proportion as five years ago.

You're certainly free to change the percentages, but only for the right rea-sons: You're closer to retirement, for Large-cap stocks, \$117,880 (56 perordozen other factors.

Large-cap stocks, \$117,880 (56 perput away money for retirement, 80 perordozen other factors.

Large-cap stocks, \$14,735 (7 perput away money for retirement, 80 perordozen other factors.

Large-cap stocks, \$14,735 (7 percent); tech stocks, \$29,470 (14 percent);
ordozen other factors.

Large-cap stocks, \$14,735 (7 percent); tech stocks, \$29,470 (14 percent);
ordozen other factors.

Large-cap stocks, \$14,735 (7 percent); tech stocks, \$14,735 (7 peryou believe you can time the market. If
you believe, for instance, that large-cap

stocks will continue to outperform small-cap stocks or that emerging markets never will come back.

Yes, large-cap funds have returned 31 percent on average in each of the past four years. But as David Bugen, a financial adviser, wrote on Morningstar Inc.'s Web site, "It is not unusual for one asset class or investment style to dominate for four consecutive years."

Mr. Bugen, who is a principal in the firm Bugen Stuart Korn & Cordaro Inc. in Chatham, New Jersey, added: "When an asset class achieves short-term dominance, investors often believe that a long-term trend has been established and overweight the asset class. But drastic allocation moves can be dangerous.'

That warning also applies to allocation moves that occur benignly. Over five years, our model portfolio switched out of small-cap stocks and into largecap funds in a big way -- even though no

stocks were bought or sold. Will large-cap stocks rule forever? Don't count on it. Mr. Bugen divided the past 20 years into five equal periods and chose five asset classes: U.S. large-cap stocks, U.S. small-cap stocks, international large-cap stocks, international small-cap stocks and real estate. Remarkably, each asset class was No. 1 in one ~ and only one - four-year period.

The truth is, sectors rotate. The best way to avoid being steamrollered in the rotation is to stay diversified and to rebalance.

Mr. Bugen made the case vividly by examining the performance of the five asset classes between 1972 and 1998 against the performance of an equal mix

of the five, rebalanced every year. The equal-mix portfolio beat four out of the five asset classes.

When small-cap shares fall as a proportion of assets, you buy more, and at the right time — when they are out of favor. When large-cap stocks rise, you sell.

The only drawback to this approach is the absurd U.S. system of taxing capital gains. Unless they hold their assets in an individual retirement account, 401(k) plan or the like, investors will have to fork over taxes every time they sell shares to rebalance.

It's the price of prudence.

E-mail address: jglassman@iht.com.

Very briefly:

• The U.S. stock market has seen virtually unprecedented increases in recent years and is in a "dangerous" period that could see stock values drop sharply, the and is in a "dangerous" period that could see stock values drop snappy, the billionaire investor Warren Buffett said. Stocks had risen "terrifically" over the past 15 years, driven higher by lower interest rates and rising return on equity, Mr. Buffett said on the ABC News program "Nightline." Asked when the bubble would burst, Mr. Buffett said: "You never know. You know that valuations are high, by historic standards. You know that the level of speculation is high, by any historic standards. historic standards, and you know that it doesn't go on forever, but you don't know when it ends."

 Daewoo Securities Co., South Korea's largest brokerage, will start selling mutual funds managed by Goldman, Sachs & Co., the first new overseas funds introduced in South Korea since the nation's economic crisis began in late 1997. The Korean brokerage will apply for approval from the state-run Financial Supervisory Com-(mission to begin sales in April of five open-ended mutual funds. The funds will be invested in overseas equity and fixed-income products, said Chung Jun Ho, a general manager in Daewoo Securities' international sales division. Sales of overseas mutual funds dropped after the Asian economic downtum in late 1997 as South Korea pushed up interest rates to defend its currency, making investments at home more attractive to local investors.

 Hong Kong will merge its stock and futures exchanges to increase the city's competitiveness, Financial Secretary Donald Tsang said at the release of the city's competitiveness, Financial Secretary Donald I sang said at the release of the city's annual budget. The merger, which comes as recession-stricken Hong Kong's role as a financial center is being challenged by Singapore, will happen within seven months, Mr. Tsang said. Hong Kong's merger follows a consolidation trend in the region, with Singapore saying in November it will merge its stock and futures exchanges and Australia announcing in December that it might merge its derivatives

• Shares of Magnum Corp., Malaysia's largest lottery company, fell 2 percent to a two-month low on speculation Lim Thian Kiat will cede control of its parent company, Multi-Purpose Holdings Bhd. Mr. Lim is in talks to sell his stake in Multi-Purpose for 750 million ringgit (\$197.4 million) to Chan Chun Cheung, a director of Renong Bhd, the Singapore Business Times reported, quoting unidentified sources. The paper said Mr. Lim was likely to resign his post as the company's chief executive.

 Hong Kong said it would sell a minority stake in its wholly owned commuter railway to the public, eventually raising 30 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$3.9 billion) from shares in Mass Transit Railway Corp. The proposed sale will take place in 2001 and 2002, raising 15 billion dollars in each year. In total, it will be the second-biggest initial share sale in Asia outside Japan.

 Ayala Corp., owner of the Philippines' largest property company, said it had created a class of shares that could raise as much as \$1 billion for it to scoop up assets made cheap by Asia's recession. Ayala said its board has approved selling as many as \$300 million of newly created "X" shares, which would earn 10 times the dividends of its common shares. Assuming the X shares would fetch 10 times the current price of the common shares, such a sale could raise 39 billion pesos (\$1 billion) for the conglomerate.

· Bank of Moscow, the bank that handles the Russian capital's accounts, said it wanted to sell a stake to a foreign partner to raise money and increase its market share. Pavel Borodin, the bank's president, said the bank may sell a stake of between S percent and 10 percent. He said foreign investors, including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, had expressed interest in buying a stake, though no agreements have been made.

 Hutchison Whampoa Ltd. completed the first sale of an Asian corporate bond to be denominated in Europe's new currency, the euro, today in Frankfurt. The sale is at a lower cost than it would have had to pay to sell dollar-denominated bonds. The sale of 500 million euros (\$547 million) in seven-year 5.5 percent bonds was priced at 99.388 percent of face value to yield 170 basis points more than German government Bunds of comparable maturity, or about 5.6 percent, said Deutsche Bank AG in Frankfurt, which along with HSBC Markets is managing the sale.

Where Growth and Value Mix

Washington Post Service WASHINGTON - Growth and

value in one package?

Morgan Stanley Dean Witter has the value. Anything under 1.0 denotes a bargain.

Here are selections, each rated America Inc., dental management, 34 "strong buy" and each with a PEGY percent.

ARM Financial Group Inc., an insurance concern, with earnings growing at 19 percent, according to Bloomberg News; North Face Inc. compiled a list of stocks with low outdoor clothes and gear, growing 24 PEGY ratios — a figure derived by percent; PhyCor Inc., health managedividing a company's price/earnings ment, 21 percent; Cordant Technol-ratio by the sum of its annualized five-year growth estimates and dividend LO Industries Inc., promotional yield. The lower the PEGY, the better products, 28 percent; Howmet International Inc., jet-engine parts, 26 per-cent, and Orthodontic Centers of

- JAMES K. GLASSMAN

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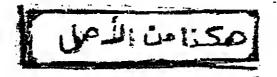
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ASIA/PACIFIC



Hyundai Founder Fires Brother in Dispute By Don Kirk
International Herald Tribune

family feud, the founder of the Hyundai group of companies, Chung Jn Yung, has ordered the Jn Yung as co-chairmen of the entire Hyundai resignation of a younger brother as honorary chairman of Hyundai Motor Co. and appointed

of the South Korean car industry by the local media, reportedly challenged the authority of his well-known older brother, Chung Jn Yung, to dominate Hyundai Motor, the group's flag-

chairman of the company, while Chung Ju producing its first car in 1966.
Yung, 84, insisted that his own son, Chung Hyundai is to take over bankrupt Kia Motor SEOUL — In a new chapter of a corporate man, Hyundai officials said. Chung Mong Ku

resignation of a younger brother as honorary chairman of Hyundai Motor Co. and appointed is oldest son as the company chief, Hyundai is oldest son as the company chief, Hyundai is oldest son as the company chief, Hyundai is of the change in control of Hyundai Motor also is se resign, and Chung Se Yung accepted that proposal, is said Jun Ho Lee, a Hyundai Motor also is se and expand motor vehicle spokesman. "Chung Se Yung withdrew as chairman of the entire Hyundai is sumes debts from Kia of 6. Hyundai Motor also is se and expand motor vehicle spokesman. "Chung Se Yung accepted that proposal," said Jun Ho Lee, a Hyundai Motor also is se and expand motor vehicle spokesman. "Chung Se Yung withdrew as chairman of the board of directors, and his nephew, Chung Mong Ku, will take that job."

Chung Mong Gyu, once acting chairman of Hyundai vehicles in South Ku chairs both companies.

Chung Se Yung accepted that proposal, is said Jun Ho Lee, a Hyundai Motor also is se and expand motor vehicle sorbing the automotive displayment. "Chung Mong Ku, will take that job."

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Chung Mong Gyu, once acting chairman of Hyundai wehicles in South Ku chairs both companies.

Hyundai Motor, remains vice chairman and chief executive officer, Mr. Jun said.

The shift comes as the company is preparing

Co. at the end of the month by paying 1.7 trillion won (\$1.4 billion) under terms of its bid at last and a younger brother earlier succeeded Chung year's anction for Kia. The company also assumes debts from Kia of 6.3 trillion won, Mr.

> Hyundai Motor also is seeking to streamline and expand motor vehicle operations by absorbing the automotive division of Hyundai Precision & Industries Co. and merging with Hyundai Motor Service Co., which markets Hyundai vehicles in South Korea. Chung Mong

> Chung Se Yung and his son remain Hyundai Motor's largest individual stockholders, with 8.2 percent of the stock, but Chung Ju Yung and

Chung Se Yung, 71, sought to advance the South Korean motor-vehicle industry after los- undai companies, which own a majority of to expand its already dominant position in the Chung Mong Ku exercise control of other Hypower of his son, Chong Mong Gyn, vice ing money last year for the first year since shares of Hyundai Motor.

4.9% Growth for '98

SYDNEY — The Australian Telecommunications Union criti- telecommunications economy grew at its fastest pace in cized France and Italy for failing to around the world late last year found four years in 1998, the government submit compliance reports on the ready to deal with the Y2K bug by the robust consumer spending and with recently, an ITU official said Wednesday, while 9 percent would be ready to deal with the Y2K bug by the end of 1998, while 9 percent would be ready to deal with the Y2K bug by the end of 1998, while 9 percent would be ready to deal with the Y2K bug by the

Australia Reports

barely a trace of inflation. Low interest rates, solid job personal wealth through thriving equity markets helped Australia avoid the deep recession seen in many Asian countries, although there are signs the economy may slow because of weak export de-

mand and capital investment. Gross domestic product, the total output of goods and services, exfourth quarter from the previous three

months, exceeding expectations. This is a marvelous performance for an economy whose major trading partners have been in recession the past year," said Rob Henderson, chief economist at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson. "We're in a very similar situation to the U.S., with strong growth and low inflation."

MANILA - The International

nesday. Some areas of the world are not growth, rising wages and a boom in reporting their compliance with year

the ITU on their Y2K efforts until they were openly criticized by the ITU at two international telecommunications meetings, be said.

France and Italy Assailed for Y2K Laxity

end of 1998, while 9 percent would be ready by March 1999. A further 22 percent would be ready in the three months ending June, 17 percent in the three months to September and 3 percent by the end of December.

He also said he was "appalled" that many major cellular-telephone companies had not sent in reports. Many older computer systems re-cord dates by the last two digits of the in correcting the glitch.

Mr. Balls said a survey of 402 comes, they will be unable to discommunications companies tinguish between 2000 and 1900.

The bng probably will cause a "gradual degradation" of telephone services unless it is addressed, Mr.

year. When the mm of the century

At the same conference, Chit Tharntong, the World Bank's principal information officer, said the millennium bug could spread like the currency crisis that battered Asia starting in mid-1997. He said the economic crisis in Asia exacerbated the problem as it "minimized resources" that could have been used

panded 4.9 percent last year, the Australian Bureau of Statistics figures and GIDP pressure 1.1 percent in the

TOKYO - Japan's key shortterm interest rate hit another record low Wednesday, hovering barely above zero, as the central bank wrestled to hold off deflation.

The Bank of Japan powed money into the market for the second straight day, forcing the overnight

pected the rate to fall yet further. At stimulate growth, there is little sign zero percent, short-term loans yet of recovery. would be free, although most econ-

inflation." call rate, the rate at which banks lend largest. Even though the govern- last month that was threatening to (Bloomberg, AFP) to each other, down to just 0.02 ment spent more than 40 trillion yen strangle corporate borrowing.

percent. Some dealers said they ex- (\$330 billion) last year trying to

With short-term rates at just 0.02 omists expect the market to simply percent, lenders have little incentive dry up at that point. to offer money, since most must pay brokerage commissions of about to offer money, since most must pay lies the worrying state of the Jap- that same rate. Meanwhile, longanese economy, the world's second term rates have fallen from a high

Hong Kong Says Disney **Plans Park**

By Mark Landler New York Times Service

A senior Hong Kong official said Wednesday that Walt Disney Co. was in early oegotiations to build its second Asian theme park in the former British colony, confirming weeks of rumors.

Donald Tsang, the financial sec-retary, said while delivering the government's budget speech that Disney and the Hong Kong government had reached a "common understanding" about building a park in Hong Kong. He said the two sides would now begin "intensive negotiations" and hoped to make a

final decisioo by the end of June. Disney operates two theme parks outside the United States, one near Paris and one in Tokyo, in addition to parks in Florida and California.

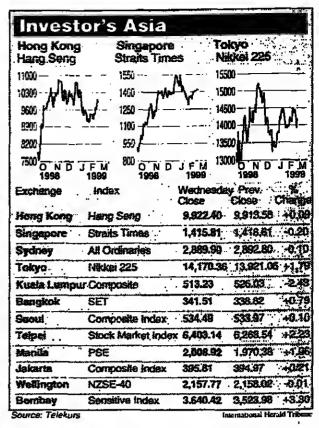
If Disney and Hong Kong sign a definitive agreement, Mr. Tsang said, the first phase of a Hong Kong Disneyland could be completed by

interest in Hong Kong has generated giddy excitement in the recessionracked city. Some people have come to view it almost as a pot of gold at the end of the Asian crisis.

Even as be confirmed the negotiations, bowever, Mr. Tsang felt obliged to temper public expecta-

"I am fully aware of and indeed share the public's excitement at the prospect of seeing Mickey and his friends in Hong Kong," be said in the speech. "However, I must caution that while we have made the first important steps, there is still much ground to cover.

The chairman of Disney, Michael Eisner, said in the company's latest annual report that it probably would build a park in China in the coming years. But be did not specify Hong Kong as the location. Before Disney committed to Hong Kong, it would need to agree on details such as the price of the land.



Very briefly:

 Starwood Capital Group LP, a group of funds affiliated with Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc., is close to buying a stake in Sansiri PCL, an ailing Thai property

 Cathay Pacific Airways, Hoog Kong's long-baul airline which in 1998 suffered its first loss in 35 years, said it may cut the salaries of about half of its 1,324 pilots and instead offer them options to buy shares in the company.

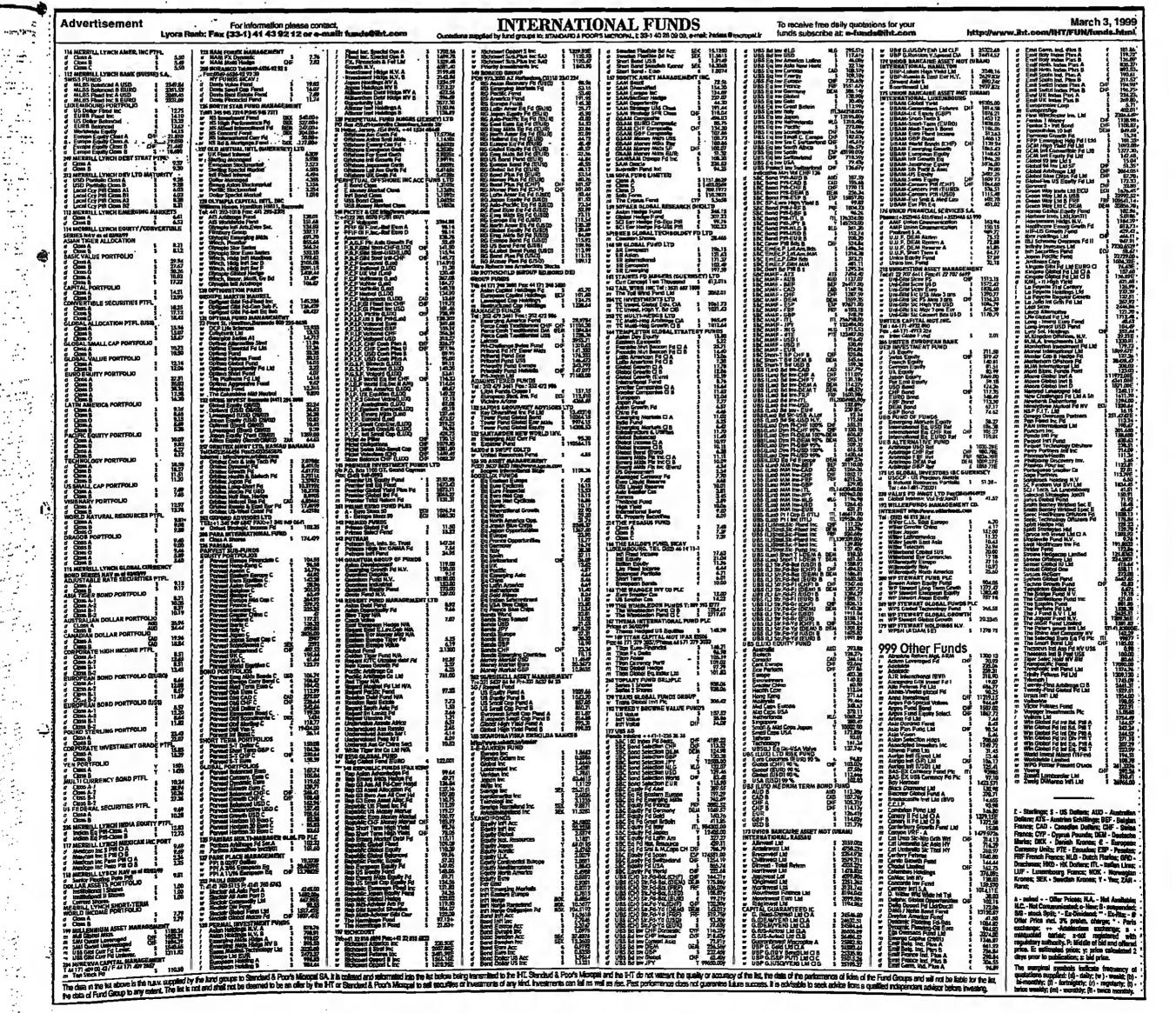
 Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp.'s pretax profit this year will probably be 293 billion yen (\$2.42 billion), "sligbily" lower than its target, said Junicbiro Miyazu, president of the world's largest telephone company.

· Hino Motors Ltd., Japan's largest maker of buses and trucks, will cut 10 percent of its administrative work force and expects a parent-company net loss of 30 billion yen for the year ending March 31, compared with its previous forecast of a 9.2 billion yen loss, as sales fell more than expected.

· Australia's financial-services minister, Joe Hockey, ancounced plans to introduce uniform regulation for all financial-service products and rules for improved disclosure by financial-service providers.

· Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Bbd., the body created by the Malaysian government to relieve the country's sbanered banking industry, expects to complete this month its purchase of 7 billion ringeit (\$1.8 billion) in bad debts from Bumiputra Commerce Bank Bhd.

Bloomberg



Herald Eribune

WORLD ROUNDUP

An Appeal to Clinton

OLYMPICS President Bill Clinton was urged Wednesday to place the International Olympic Committee under the same federal law that deals with dishonest foreign gov-

ernments.

The U.S. Olympic Committee's president, Bill Hybl, sent the request to Clinton in a letter, and said such action would be an important step toward cleansing the Olympics of the "global crisis" of the Salt Lake City scandal, in which bidders paid more than \$1.2 million to try to buy the votes that helped win the 2002 Winter Games.

"To do any less would mean facing a future that might include the loss of the games and noble ideals they profess, "Hybl said.
He said USOC oversight of Salt Lake bidders had been "abysmal."

The USOC's executive director, Dick Schultz, said the scandal was 'embarrassing." Both promised it would not recur.

"We are trying to put in place procedures, policies and individuals who will not allow this to happen again," Hybl said at a news conference in Washington. (AP)

Rescuer Takes the Lead

SAILING Giovanni Soldini, with the French sailor Isabelle Autissier aboard, won the third leg of the Around Alone solo round-theworld yacbt race Wednesday.

The Italian rescued Autissier when her yacht capsized in the Southern Ocean in February. Soldini had trailed Marc Thiercelin by 18 hours, but the French-

man was in the Falkland Islands for repairs after his boat lost a mast. Soldini sailed from Auckland to Punta del Este, Uruguay, in 25 days, 9 hours and 55 minutes(AFP)

Test Is Stuck in a Draw

CRICKET The first test between New Zealand and South Africa ended in a draw Wednesday in Auckland on a surface that gave new meaning to the cricket phrase "sticky wicket." Officials had sprayed wood glue on the wicket before the test to hold together turf weakened by fungus and rugby matches. Only 18 wickets fell over the five days.

At the end, the Kiwis were 244

for three in their second innings, 25 behind South Africa's first innings score of 621.



Paul Adams, the South African spin bowler, following through on a delivery on Wednesday.

25 Turnovers By Jazz Lead **Trail Blazers** To Victory

PORTLAND, Oregon - When the born sounded and the team with the best record in the league left the floor beaten, the Portland Trail Blazers huddled to-gether like high school kids, ticker-tape and cheers floating around them.

It was a joyous moment for the Trail Blazers, who made a statement against a

NBA ROUNDUP

team that bad been to the last two NBA finals, but one that was dismissed by the Utah Jazz.

"They played well, and they're a very talented team — probably the most talented team in the league," said Jerry Sloan, Utah's coach, following his team's 102-100 double-overtime loss Tuesday night. "But we just gave this game to them."

Utah, which still has the NBA's best record at 11-3, gave away plenty against the Blazers, turning the ball over 25 times and making un-Jazzlike mistakes late in the game. But the Blazers, second-best in the league at 10-3, took the fight to the Jazz. And in the end they

wrested the game away.

Isaiah Rider hit two big sbots in the second overtime and Rasbeed Wallace made two free throws with 17 seconds left to give Portland the lead for good in the battle of the Western Conference's two division leaders.

"We're growing up," said Brian Grant, a Blazers forward who bad 13 points and 12 rebounds. "We're getting a little bit of what Utah has had for the last five years: a little leadership, a little poise, veteran play down the stretch."
Heart 85, Knicks 84 In Miami, in a

Ewing scored a season-high 31 points and Alonzo Mourning had 28 points, 11 half points. He sat out the second balf rebounds and 7 blocked shots for the Heat. But Ewing missed a 14-fnoter (4meterer) as time ran out, Ewing had 16 rebounds and 6 blocks.

a turnover in the final two minutes of regulation, then missed the potential game-winning jumper over P. J. Brown in overtime. Pistons 108, Bulls 78 Detroit handed

Chicago its worst loss ever at the United Center, the previous worst was an 18point loss to Philadelphia last week.
It was Detroit's first victory in Chica-

go since March 1990. scored 36 points and had 17 rebounds as Bernie Bickerstaff, the Wizards' coach, State.

NEW YORK - The first two times

Seton Hall played Notre Dame this sea-

son, the Pirates lost and Duane Jordan

In the game that meant the most.

however, each scored 18 points to lead

Seton Hall to a 79-69 victory Wed-

nesday in the opening round of the Big

"With our good defense came good offense," said Jordan, who also had 13

Seton Hall, whose opponent Thursday

in the quarterfinals is the top-seeded and

third-ranked Connecticut, had two de-

cent outings against the Huskies this

season, leading at halftime both times

East tournament.

rebounds.

before losing.

and Rimas Kaukenas were not factors.



Shawn Kemp of the Cavaliers, right, being blocked at the net by Tony Battie of the Celtics. Cleveland romped to victory, however, 116-99.

Eighth-seeded Notre Dame (14-16) Penn Takes Ivy League Title

Sacramento won in Vancouver.

Spurs 99, Rockets 82 Tim Duncan had 23 points and 14 rebounds as San Antmatchup of former Georgetown University centers, New York's Patrick Ewing scored a season-high 31 points

Heart 85, Knicks 84 In Miami, in a matchup of former Georgetown University centers, New York's Patrick a 53-37 halftime edge as a former Houston guard, Mario Elie, had 15 first-

Mavericks 112, Clippers 99 In Dallas, Michael Finley scored 20 points and A. C. Green had 19 points and 12 re-

Pacers 88, Nuggets 81 Denver went without a field goal for more than seven minutes in the final period as Indiana went on a 16-1 run to clinch the game. It was Denver's seventh consecutive

Wizards 97, Hawks 77 Washington Since March 1990.

Kings 111, Grizzlies 101 Chris Webber ing 42 for 71 (59 percent) for the game.

Seton Hall Downs Notre Dame, 79-69

has never won a Big East tournament game, dropping to 0-4 since joining the

Virginia Tech 74, Fordham 63 In Phil-

adelphia, Rolan Roberts scored 19

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

points and Virginia Tech held Fordham

to 34 percent shooting as the Hokies advanced to the quarterfinals of the At-

Brendan Dunlop added 15 points, in-

clinding two key baskets in the second

half that helped turn away Fordham ral-

lies. The Hokies (13-14) advanced to

play the East division's top seed,

lantic-10 Conference tournament.

missed his second consecutive game with the fln. He did not make the trip to Atlanta with the team. Cavaliers 116, Celtics 99 In Cleve-land, Shawn Kemp scored 22 points as

the Cavs broke the 100-point mark for the first time this season. Cleveland shot 58.1 percent from the

field just one night after making a franchise-low 21 field goals on 29.6 percent shooting in a loss at New Bucks 94, Nets 86 Glenn Robinson

scored eight of his 18 points in the final 2:49 as Milwaukee scored 11 of the last 13 points to win in New Jersey. The Nets lost for the seventh time i

eight games and fell to 3-11.
Timberwoives 89, Warriors 78 Kevin
Gamett scored 27 points and Stephon
Marbury had 13 of his 19 in the fourth quarter as Minnesota, which had lost three in a row, beat visiting Golden

Geoff Owens scored 14 points and sparked a decisive run to start the second

half as Penn won the Ivy League cham-pionship, and with it an NCAA berth, for

New Jersey. Penn (21-5 overall, 13-1 Ivy League)

avenged an earlier loss to Princeton in which the Quakers blew a 27-point lead. The loss by Princeton (20-7, 11-3) ended

victories at home. Penn's starters com-

bined for 68 points, as Jed Ryan scored 15 and Paul Romanczuk, Matt Langel

and Mike Jordan each had 13.

For Cepeda, a Prize **Worth Waiting For**

Infielder 'Ready' to Join Friends in Hall

The Associated Press TAMPA, Florida — It was the spring of 1953, and a young tecnager named Orlando Cepeda made quite an impres-

Sion among elite company.

Bill White and Willie McCovey, future Hall of Famers, took note. So did Leon Wagner and Willie Kirkland, two more prospects who would go on to have productive major-league careers.
"We were all with the Giants," re-

called White, the former National League president and a member of the Veterans Committee that elected Ce-peda to the Baseball Hall of Fame on Tuesday. "We know then that Orlando

was something special.'

Eventually, Cepeda would take over as the Giants' first baseman — in a lineup with Willie Mays, Juan Marichal and McCovey — after White was traded to St. Louis. Later, he would wind up with the Cardinals, replacing White in

the lineup again.

Cepeda, who hit 379 home runs in a 17-year career, joined the Negro Leagues pitcher Smokey Joe Williams, the turn-of-the-century manager Frank Selee and the former umpire Nestor Chylak as selections by the 12-man committee.

Among the former players, managers and executives receiving support, but not the necessary nine votes for election, were Bill Mazeroski, Dom DiMaggio, Joe Gordon, Bowie Kuhn, Dick Williams and Whitey Herzog.

Marichal, a member of the committee,

called Cepeda with the good news that they would be teammates in the Hall of Fame. Cepeda missed by just seven votes in his final year on the ballot of the Baseball Writers Association in 1994. He came close last year in voting by the

"He was the type of player who had no fear, the type of player you wanted play-ing behind you," Marichal said. Cepeda hit .297 with 1,365 runs batted in and played in nine All-Star games.

"It's hard to explain the feeling," Cepeda said Tuesday at 3Com Park in San Prancisco, which was called Candlestick Park when he played there. "I've been ready for this for 17 years. When they told me I was selected, I lost my mind."

Murray Chass of The New York Times

reported earlier: Cepeda, hampered by bad knees throughout his career, said he believed his arrest in Puerto Rico in 1975 for smuggling marijuana had worked against his earlier election.

"They didn't know me," he said of the writers who voted. "Maybe they heard some things about me that weren't too cool. Later on, I don't think they felt that way. When they got to know me, they knew I was a human being who made mistakes.'

Cepeda, who works for the Giants in community affairs, said he closely followed the recent debate involving Lawrence Taylor's election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. "I'm glad they voted for him," Cepeda, who served a 10-month prison sentence, said. "When you are human beings, you can make mistakes. I learned from my mistakes."

Subsequent to his arrest, Cepeda be-came a Buddhist. He said he believes he will be the only Buddhist in the Hall of Fame when he is inducted July 25 with Nolan Ryan, George Brett and Robin Yount, whom the writers elected last

Cepeda was a unanimous winner of the National League Rookie of the Year award with the Giants in 1958 and of the National League's Most Valuable Play-er award with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1967. He also played for Atlanta, Oak-land, Boston and Kansas City. Chylak was elected 17 years after he

died at the age of 59. He served as an American League umpire for 25 years, (from 1954 through 1978, and is the eighth umpire elected to the Hall.

Blues Stun Predators, 5-1

Chase Blossoms With Two Goals and an Assist

... The Associated Press Kelly Chase put a different kind of hurt

on the Nashville Predators this time. Chase has a reputation as an enforcer, not a scorer. On Tuesday night, he

NHL ROUNDUP

assist. It was all St. Louis needed as it

beat Nashville, 5-1. "Even a blind dog finds a bone once in a while," said Chase, a veteran right

It was the Blues' sixth consecutive road victory, a team record. And it was

the first two-goal game for Chase in 426 National Hockey League games. Even after the offensive show against the Predators, Chase has a total of 1,871

penalty minntes and just 17 goals in his the first time in four years, The As-sociated Press reported from Princeton, Char

Chase opened the scoring at 18:26 with a wrist shot over Mike Dunham's slap shot for Ottawa's sixth victory in its glove. At 18:59, he made it 2-0 on the rebound of Scott Young's shot. Mike Eastwood assisted on both.

Control of Lichard Park Park 18:26 Alfredsson redirected Lance Pitlick's slap shot for Ottawa's sixth victory in its glove. The victory put the Senators into the Eastern Conference lead.

Bondra, who also had an assist, has 29 goals in 29 games against Tampa Bay, including six goals and two assists in his last two games against the Lightning.

Canadiens 4, Flyers 1 Shayne Corson, Jonas Hoglund and Martin Rucinsky scored third-period goals to lift Montreal past slumping Philadelphia, which suffered a season-high fourth straight loss. It was the fifth consecutive road defeat for the Flyers, who led the Eastern Conference a week ago, but have since

The victory was Montreal's fifth in a row at home.

Bruins 3, Coyotes 2 P.J. Axelsson had a goal and an assist and Byron Dafoe made 28 saves as Boston extended its unbeaten streak to five games.

Phoenix lost its third straight and eighth of its last nine. The Coyotes head home with a 1-6-0 record for their twoweek road trip.

Senators 4, Islanders 2 Daniel Alfredsson's tip-in goal with nine minutes left capped a three-goal rally for Ottawa. .

The loss by Princeton (20-7, 11-3) ended its streaks of seven straight victories first of two goals sparked a five-goal first-over Penn, three Ivy titles and 26 Ivy period outburst for Washington in Tampa. unbeaten in three games since losing Wayne Gretzky, who has a neck injury. The Stars had their seven-game road

winning streak stopped but grew their

unbeaten road streak to nine.

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TO HOE

SPORTS

Warns Holds Off Parma, 2-1

Aut of many Act of many Hernan Crespo used his favorite trick to give Parma a late goel, but Bordeaux prevailed, 2-1, in their UEFA Cup equarterfinal first-leg match. With host Bordeaux leading by two goals Tuesday and Parma reduced to 10 men by

UEFA CUP

the expulsion of its captain,

TO MAKE Antonio Benarrivo, Parma's Enrico Chiesa counterattacked down the right flank. Crespo met Chiesa's low drive into the penalty area with his right heel, flicking the ball behind his left leg and into the far corner of the net. It he has scored with the same

just a goal after a fine game by stole the ball from the de-Bordeaux. Johan Micoud and fender Goran Djurovic on the Sylvain Wiltord had put the Girondins in control in the first half with two well-crafted goals. But they were then this winner in the 68th minute. He Buffon, the Parma goalie.

Maracillo 2, Colta Vigo 1 a defender before crossing for Florian Maurice scored both Maurice, who blasted the ball Marseille goals. But in between, Marseille gave the visitors a goal when a series of errors allowed Alexander seille goalie, Stephane Porato, Mostovoi, Celta's Russian midfielder, to score. Richard Dutruel, Celta's French goal- his hands. keeper, made a string of saves to keep Marseille out early

Maurice opened the scor-



was the third time this season Atletico's Vladimir Jugovic, left, vying for the ball with Marco Delvecchio of Roma in their UEFA Cup match.

Parma was lucky to lose by after Christophe Dugarry fender Goran Djurovic on the edge of the penalty box.

move that led to Maurice's sent Robert Pires away on the right, and the playmaker beat home inside the near post.

Mostovoi had leveled four minutes earlier when the Marlet a tame, low cross from the left by Haim Revivo slip from

smashed a free kick into the ing just after the half hour top corner of the Atletico goal with a shot inside the far post from 30 meters (100 feet).

Atletico had taken a twogoal lead on tallies by Jose Mari Romero and Roberto Fresnedoso. The lead was just Dugarry also started the reward for Atletico, which

> 13th minute and also hit a post with a curling right footer.
> Atletico doubled the lead a minute after the break when Frespedoso dribbled his way through the Roma defense and blasted a shot into the net.

editions Wednesday: Atletico Madrid 2, Roma 1

Bologna 3, Lyon 0 Guiseppe in the country and a further 8 million outside the United Kingdom," he goal in Madrid when he logna put itself in a strong said.

In Soccer, Status Means a Club TV Station , Manchester United, Olympique Marseille and Real Madrid Are First to the Air

By Christopher Clarey International Herald Tribune

EVILLE, Spain — For the leading soccer powers, it is no longer enough to have an expensive striker from Brazil, or an exlonger enough to have a modern stadium and a stable full of sponsors. If a club wants to impress its rivals,

it needs its own television station. Manchester United, the popular itself the sporting equivalent of a vanity license plate last September. Olympique Marseille, which has the

same in January. The channel devoted to Real Madrid, the reigning European champion, began broadcasting Feb. 15, beating the club's arch-rival, Barcelona, to

the digital airwaves. Clubs that were once content to publish a newsletter for their fans are now producing or anthorizing daily mming. Marseille's channel, OMTV, is on the air four hours a day. Manchester's, called MUTV, is on for was on top from the outset.

Jose Mari put the hosts
the club's hiring and firing president,
ahead with a header from a Lorenzo Sanz: It broadcasts 12 hours Michele Serena cross in the every weekday with extra time allotted on the weekends.

All three channels are pay channels on satellite or cable.

The goal, according to Neil Davis, MUTV's finance director, is to connect to those without a ticket. "Manchester United has a capacity of In a game reported in late 55,000 at Old Trafford, and there are 4 million more Manchester United fans

pacity to carry thousands of digital channels, has more momentum in Europe than in the United States. It is

less exclusive versions of it. When league games."
Ted Turner launched Superstation, his Until then, the club networks will largest following in France, did the rnn programming that relies heavily 60 or more at MUTV). on local teams.

The soccer season in Europe is longer than either the NBA or Major League Baseball season, but what is remarkable about the three club channels is that they do not yet broadcast any of their premier teams' games. The rights to those matches are part of Real Madrid TV settle for showing replays of big games from previous seasons. MUTV and Real Madrid TV also broadcast reserve-team and

youth-team matches. This may be no way to attract large andiences, but club network officials cast first-team encounters, at least on

a delayed basis. In Britain, the government is de-

now take note (and take notes). No buy Manchester United, which would is free until June to early subscribers American team in any sport has its ensure that even if the government own network. That is partly because invalidates its contract, Sky would satellite television, which has the ca-

Isabelle Rey-Correard, a spokesperson for Olympique Marseille, said, "When the rights are renegotiated in pensive defender from France. It is no also because American impresarios France there could be some changes, and media companies don't yet view and perhaps our president. Robert the concept as potentially profitable. Louis-Dreyfus, will decide he wants But they have, in any case, created to get back the rights to our team's

English club, was the first to offer Atlanta-based cable channel in the attempt to provide hors d'ocuvres for 1970s, the professional teams that viewers who will take their main soc-Turner owned, the baseball Atlanta cer meals elsewhere. OMTV cur-Braves and the basketball Atlanta rently has the most meager fare, Hawks, were core programming. Sev- which is not surprising considering eral regional cable networks, such as that it has by far the smallest staff Fox Sports West and the Madison (about 20 employees, compared with Square Garden network in New York, 50 at Real Madrid's channel and the

> ARSEILLE'S channel has only an hour of original programming daily, oriented toward the club's upcoming matches, and an inordinate number of repeats for a network that is only six weeks old. MUTV does four nightly news upthe television packages sold by their dates, including reports from practice, leagues. Instead, MUTV, OMTV and which are a staple of all the club channels.

> For now, MUTV's reach is limited to British satellite and cable viewers willing to pay £5 (\$8) a month. OMTV is on the Canal Satellite Digital service in France for 35 francs (\$5.85) a month; Real Madrid TV is hope they will soon be able to broad- on the same service in Spain and will cost 750 pesetas (\$5) monthly when its promotional offers expire.

MUTV does not release sobscriber ciding whether the Premier League figures. OMTV has 19,000 sub-commodating interviewers, as their constitutes an unfair monopoly when scribers, and Real Madrid TV, which principal means of communication. logna put itself in a strong said.

It remains to be seen whether fans position to advance to the semifinals, brushing aside accustomed to lighting the way in vision, which owns those rights, is a vision, which owns those rights, is a partner in MUTV and is bidding to appeal and to the fact that the channel choose to commitmication.

It remains to be seen whether fans also covers the clinb's basketball team. It remains to be seen whether fans also covers the clinb's basketball team. It remains to be seen whether fans also covers the clinb's basketball team. It remains to be seen whether fans of commitmication.

Murdoch's satellite arm, Sky Teleoperation—a tribute to Real Madrid's forums by which their local beroes appeal and to the fact that the channel choose to express themselves.

Of the three new channels, only OMTV is owned exclusively by its club. While OM's production staff is in-bouse and two of its presenters -Eva Bravo and Lactitia Roy - are the wives of current OM players, Real Madrid TV is produced by an in-

dependent production company. In theory, that means Sanz and other club officials do not have editoria control. "This is a Real Madrid channel, independent of those who run the clnb," said Javier Ares, the channel's director. In practice, independence

will prove difficult to maintain. In only its second week, the channel carried all the commotion surrounding the firing of Guus Hiddink as coach and the hiring of John Toshack. It made for a welcome break from junior games covered inexpertly with too few cameras and nervous interviewers glancing too often at their notes.

But at least Real Madrid TV's interviewers have subjects. The soccer team's players have been boycotting the media for weeks, but they have made an exception for their own television channel. Fernando Hierro, a defender, who had not spoken publicly since Sept. 1, was among those to break his silence.

Although personnel at Real Madrid
TV have been quick to celebrate these coups, there is no reason for the general public to celebrate. If enough elite teams launch their own channels it is hardly a leap to imagine players regularly bypassing the independent media and using the club channel with its symbiotic imperative and ac-

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Rebesustis: Les Appeles 51 (Taylor 14); Dallos 47 (Green 12); Assistis: Clippers 19 (Dougles 5); Dallos 26 (Friley 9); Defreit 21 21 29 27 - 106
Clécuspo 11 21 29 27 - 106
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Rebesustes Defroit 57 (Williams 10); Chicago 45 (Kulipe 10); Assistis: Defroit 29 (Hill 11); Chicago 29 (Kulipe 20) (Kulipe

TURNINAY RESULTS

Deriver

21 25 24 11— 81

Indiana

D: Van Exel 10-23 7-2 28, McDyess 5-15 66 16. Alexander 6-16 0-16 it. Miller 6-14 3-4

Malin 6-8 1-1 18. Resonants: Deriver 46

(Fortson 12), Indiana 59 (Crushere 9).

Assistic Deriver 12 (Van Exel 7), Indiana 15

(Juckson 8),

Washinston

W: Richsmend 12-192-228, Howard 10-160-026 A: Long 6-154-717, Johnson 6-112-314.
Relicends: Weshington A6 Gloword, Thorpe 8), Afferdia G (Long 10: Assista: Washington 21 (Strickland 11), Adjensio 17 (Lohisson 5).
Boston 27 19 29 24-99
Cleveland 27 29 28-116
B: Mercer 9-16 4-4 22, Wesley 7-15 2-5 17
Renop 5-8 22-15 22, Person 6-9 1-1
TRelicends: Boston 39 (K.Anderson 6, Cleveland 54 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 5), Cleveland 55 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 5), Cleveland 29 (D.Anderson 7).

Cleveland 54 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 5), Cleveland 29 (D.Anderson 7).

Cleveland 54 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 6), Cleveland 29 (D.Anderson 7).

Cleveland 55 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 6), Cleveland 29 (D.Anderson 7).

Cleveland 55 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 6), Cleveland 29 (D.Anderson 7).

Cleveland 55 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 7), Portland 25 (Grant 12).

Cleveland 55 (Kemp 10), Assists: Boston 20 (K.Anderson 7), Portland 25 (Grant 12). S.A.; Denomy 10-23 3-425, A.Jonnson 9-18-1-18: It: Pippen 7-14-6-521, Barkley 5-9-6-7 16Assists: San Antonio 27 (A.Johnson 13), Houston 13 (Pippen 5), 5 Utah 27 19 22 22 4 6—180 Partiand 27 18 24 21 4 8—182 Ut-Homook; 10-13 3-2 23, Molone 7-16-6-7 20: B. Wellers 4-11 10-13 22 Control 4-13 5-6

26 P. Walker 6-11 10-12 22, Grant 4-12 5-6 13. Stoudene're 5-16 1-2 13, Rehouse's: Unit 50 (Melone 7), Portland 56 (Grant 12). Asslets: Utoh 27 (Melone 9), Portland 23 (Stoudene're 8). Strements 29 25 28 29—111 Vancouver 25 30 22 24—181 St Webber 17-21 2-3 36, Divac 6-10 7-8 19: V: Abdur-Rothin 13-26-3-6-29, Bibby 9-11 1-1 19, Rubottadas Sacromento 56 (Webber 17), Vancouver 44 (Abdur-Rothin 12), Assistan

-U.S. COLLEGE SCORES THE STAN PARALETTS MER Miami, Ohio 60, Bowling Green 56, OT Mid-Continues Consistence Championship Valparaiso 73, Oral Roberts 69

Arkansos St. 65, W. Kentucky 48

WOMEN Top 25 0 boot No. 8 N. Desse Cld-G 96-75. Rig East Continues Connecticut 96, Notre Dame 75

EUROLEAGUE CHATERFINALS, FREET LEG en Isturbul 73, CSKA Moscow 58 ICE HOCKEY NHL STANDINGS

Phoenix Restaut 1 0 1—2 Restaut 1 2 0—3 First Period: B-Maran 5 (Timender, Sensenney), 2 P-Roenick 20 (Tocchet, Colin) Second Period: B-Difficia 4 (Austison, Toyloo) 4 B-Ausisson 7 (Carter, Gill) Third Period: P-Quint 3 (Sriens, Tocchet) Shefs en gual: P. 14-10-6—30, B-7-7-8—22, Conflies: P-Eachs, B-Dofoe, Philadelphila Philadelphid 0 1 8—1
Montreal
Montreal
First Period: None. Second Period: PBrind'Amour 2d (Terlyshmy, Renberg) (pp).
2. M-Quirhot 7 (Kohu, Molokhou) Third
Period: M-Cotton 10 (Recchi, Quirhol). 4. MHogland & (Brischols, Dowe) S. M-Ruicinsky
15 (Damphousse, Brusen St.

Wombington 5 2 B-8
Tompel Bay 1 0 1-2
First Period: W-Zednik 6 (Bulk, Bellows)
Z. W-Berube 4 (Klee, Pivonko) 3, F-Blows
(Svobodo, Clark) (pp), 4, W-Sveilloriste 6 M.Y. Islanders:

Part Perfect: New York, Smolinski 11, 2, New York, Llowrence 9 (Poliffy, Richfer) (pol. 3, C-Arvedson 14 (Redden, York) 4, C-Berg 2 (Alfrechson, S.Salo) Second Perfod: None. Third Perfect C-Affredson 0 (Pilitch) 6.—Bork 13, (crd. Shots on gool: O-16-6-7—29, New York 9-14-14—37. Gooliesz O-Tegnott New York 7.Solo.

Dallos:

1 1 0 0—2

M.Y. Rangers 1 1 0 6—2
First Period: New York, Graves 30
(Nedwed, MarcLean) 2. D-Langenharunner 10
(Lehitnen, Madanol Second Period: New
York, Fraser 2 (Savard, Stevens) 4. DNleuwendyk 14 (Chambers) Third Period:
None, Owerflame: None, Sharts or gode: D-115-12-2-30. New York 10-8-6-2-26. Godfiet:
D-Belfour, New York, Richter:
2 2 1—5

D-Belfour, New York, Richter.

St. Louis.

10 0 1—3

First Period: S.L.-Chaze 2 (Eastwood) 2,

St. Louis, Chaze 3 (Young, Eastwood) Secand
Period: S.L.-Campbell, (Controy, Rheatune)

4 S.L.-Cornoy 13 (Campbell, Rheatine) Third
Period: S.L.-Young 14 (Chaze) 6, Noshville,
Yockmenev 6 (Heward) Shots or goal: S.L.
11-14-35, Noshville, Dunham.

SOCCER COPA LIBERTADORES . - .

STANDANCE: Estudiantes (VEN) 3, Nocional (URU) 3, Monterrey (MEX) 1, Bello Visto (URU) 1. Emelec 2, Wilsterman 2 sychopologic Liga de Quito (ECU) 3. Emelec (ECU) 3. Wilsterman (BOL) 1.

ng (BOL) 1. **UEFA CUP** QUATERFINALS, FIRST LEG. Atletico Modrid 2, AS Romo 2-0

Bologna 2, Lyon 2 standenius: Manchester United 57, Cheisea 53, Arsend 50, Leeds 45, Aston Villa 44, West Harn 40, Liverpool 39, Derby 38, Wimbledon 37, Totlenhorn 36, Sheffield Wed-nesday 35, Newcastle 35, Middlesbrough 33, Leicester 30, Everbor 28, Chartion 27, Cov-erday 27, Blackburn 26, Southampton 23, Not-tingham Forest 17, Bordenux 2, Parma 1

A BIG TEST TOMORROW.

CRICKET NEW ZIALAND VI. SOUTH AFRICA FIRST TEST, FUTTH BAY
FIRST TEST, FUTTH BAY
FORTSDAY IN AUCKLAND, N.Z.
South Articu: 621 for five duclored
New Zeolond: 352 and 244 for fives.
Match drawn.

TRANSITIONS

BASSBALL

year connect.

FLORIDAS—Agreed to terms with RHP Bdun Meadows. LHP Michael Tejera, INF Dave
Berg and OF Pol Walkins on 1-year con-

MILWADICES --- Agreed to ferms with RHP
Chad Fox, RHP Steve Woodord and LHP
Valerto De Los Santos, INF Lus Coller, OF
Geoff Jenkins, C Bobby Hughes, INF Rot
Beillard and INF-OF Briton Banks on -- year
contracts.

Mike Johnson, RHP Carl Powane, RHP Anthony Telford and 1B Brad Felliner.

LT. METS-Agreed to herms with INF Matheracy and RHP Octavia Date on 1-year contracts.

PHILADELPHIA — Agreed to forms with RHP Wayno Gomes on 1-year contract. BASSETTALL NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION NIX — Activated & Gemid Raws and

ATLANTA—Signed S Gerald McBurrows, DERVER—Signed DIE Ben Crosland and LB Ronnie Ward. MIAMI— Re-signed Eddle Jones, presiden

MAINIM—Re-signed Edite Jones, pressions and chief operating officer, to 3-year contract.
Signed RB Joy Johnson to 2-year contract.
MSW DRLEAMS — Terminated contract of WR Eric Guiltord.
MY-JETS—Signed S Steve Alwater,
PMILADELPHIA — Agreed to terms with P
Seon Londetts on 3-year contract. Signed RB,
Tone Scribt. Tony Smith.
TENNESSEE — Named Alan Lowry special

TRINESSEE — Nomed Alan Lowy special teams cooch, Steve Wedters wide receivers cooch, and Jim Weshburn defensive line' cooch Agreed to terms with LB Eddle Robinson on multi-year contract. Signed FB, Lorenzo Neni to 4-year contract.

MATERIAL MOCKEY LEADUE

MML. — Suspended Toronto II. Chris Mc.

Allister for two games, without poy, for lowing bench on legal film change and becoming,
ignowed in on offercition with N.Y. IskendersIRICH Plann are Feb. 25.

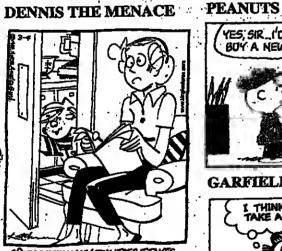
BUFFALD — Assigned F Erik Rosmussen
and II. Jean-Luc Grand-Pierre to Rochester,
Atti

DALLAS - Signed II Doug Lidster to 1-year.

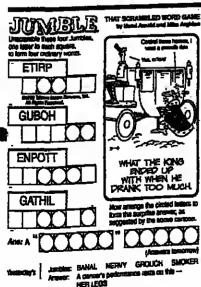
Corbet and Il Wade Belok. Assigned G Marc

TA SINGS— REDIRECT FROM THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY — RECORDED IT Soon Gognon from Springfield, AHL

ST. LOUIS— Signed G Jim Corey.
TAMPA BAY — Assigned G Martin Bradelle to Birminghom. ECHL



*GUESG HOW MANY TOMATOES IT TAKES TO MAKE ONE CAN OF JUICE."







BEETLE BAILEY

READY FOR MY NAP

LET'S SEE ... CONTACTS OUT ...

BACK BRACE OFF ... PENTURES OUT...

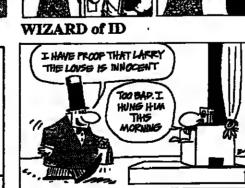
GARFIELD











CALVIN AND HOBBES

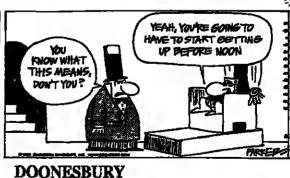
HI, ROSALYN, COME ON IN.
CALYIN'S UPSTAIRS HIDING
FROM YOU, SO YOU MAY HAVE
AN EASY EVENING.











DOONESBURY





ART BUCHWALD

If I Had a Trillion

with a lot more respect than kids do today. For example, in terms of millions. no child was permitted to say 'a billion dollars' in front of adults. It was unthinkable, and your parents would threaten to wash out your mouth with soap.

The only accepted sum of money you could discuss was "a million." We used to say to each other "I'll bet you a million dollars you can't crawl through that sewer pipe." or "I'll bet you a million dol-

mouth was.

lars your folks won't let you stay out until 10 o'clock at night. While no one paid off, it school yard and I heard one was a serious number and one that showed you were willing in put your money where your hit the ball over the fence."

Songsmiths used to write lyrics about a million dollars: in a five- and ten-cent store. Everyone in the country knew that Rockefeller was a mil-time. lionaire, as were Henry Ford and Doris Duke, the tobacco country. heiress. What made John D. Rockefeller our role model thing to yell 'fire' in a was that, as a millionaire, he crowded theater. It's another gave away dimes when he ap- to bet a trillion dollars on a peared in public. But at least home run."

construction will start in one year.

NEW YORK — When I everyone in the country was you have to take my word that — during the Depression the I was, we talked about money haves and have-nots all discussed the value of their lives

> This all came to mind when I read in the newspaper that Citibank and Travelers Group insurance were going to merge for \$82 BILLION — a very high price for two companies to sleep together. It was a number that no one

of our generation ever thought we would read in a family newspaper.
I was certain that there wasn't a person in Citibank who had ever seen a hillion dollars — much less 82 big ones. And yet that was what they were willing to pay to be joined at the hip.

I knew the sound barrier on money had been broken forever when I walked by a

The other boy shouted, "I'll bet two trillion I can." I yelled, "How dare you 'I found a million-dollar baby use that language in public!' One youngster retorted, 'My dad uses it all the

> The other said, "It's a free "Up to a point. It's one

A Sundance Center in Boston

BOSTON — Robert Redford, director of the Sundance Film Festival in Utah, has announced the formation of a

new Sundance Cinema Center that will showcase independent

also would contain a film library, two screening rooms, an

anditorium, a restaurant and two bars. Pending approval,

films in a \$40 million building to be huilt in Boston.

The complex — which would have 1,800 theater seats

Provocative Literary Star Takes France by Storm

By Alan Riding New York Times Service

DARIS - Michel Houellebecq is I an unlikely new star of French letters. Slightly built, with thinning hair and a melancholic mien, he chews nervously on a succession of cigarettes, mumbling when he is not sighing or silent. He describes himself as a manic-depressive who becomes excited only when he is writing. His fiction, which he concedes is fairly autobiographical, reflects a bleak and loveless world. Yet last fall, with the publication

by Editions Flammarion of his second novel, "Les Particules Elementaires" ("Elementary Particles"), the 40-year-old Parisian suddenly found himself at the center of "l'affaire Houellebecq." The book was an instant best-seller, with sales exceeding 260,000 to date. But what turned this success into an "affaire," or scandal, was the passion and venom with which the book's admirers and critics argued its merits.

Both sides at least agreed on one thing: The book is a frontal attack on the generation of '68, the French equivalent of the baby boomers, the middle-aged politicians, business-men, intellectuals and the like who are now in power in France. For its fans the book exposes the empty, confused and frustrated France spawned by the failed dreams of the 1968 student-protest movement. Its assaults on so-called "political correctness" apparently added to its appeal. Honellebecq's targets, on e other hand, became his instant detractors, variously denouncing the book as reactionary, misogyn-

ist, nihilistic and pornographic.
Houellebecq helped things along by giving countless, often provocative, interviews to newspapers, magazines, radio and television.

Seuil. He later dismissed the win-ner, Paule Constant's "Confidence pour Confidence" Secret''), published by Gallimard,

as mediocre and boring.

Other incidents kept tongues wagging. After a bizarre interview-trial conducted by fellow editors of the literary review Perpendiculaire. Honellebecq was formally expelled as a founding member, prompting cries of McCarthyism. The owners of a New Age campsite called L'Es-pace du Possible then sought to have "Les Particules Ele-mentaires" seized as libelous for describing the camp as a kind of free love commune. The author agreed to rename the campsite Le Lieu de

Changement in future editions.

The plot of the 394-page novel revolves around two half brothers whose bohemian mother leaves them to be raised by separate grandparents as she goes looking for the meaning of life through sex and meditation. One brother, Bruno Clement, who spends his life trying to satisfy his sexual obsession through masturbation and prostitutes, ends up in a psychiatric hospital. The other, Michel Djerzinski, who feels no sexual desire, culminates his career as a molecular biologist by eliminating the need for sex and procreation through human cloning.

The book's generational element is that Bruno was born in 1956 and Michel, like Houellebecq, in 1958. Like the author, they were children in 1968 and reached adulthood in the early 1980s when the generation of '68 came to power with the election of France's first socialist president, Francois Mitterrand. The generation's legacy, the book maintains, is a France without vision, values or hope.

Houellebecq had already sketched this disaffected view of When his novel was not short-listed for the Prix Goncourt last November, he reiterated the familiar charge that payoffs explain why Goncourt juries invariably reward books published by three highbrow houses:

Editions Gallimard, Grasset and Skeuched uns disaffected view of French society in 1994 in his first computers. The colleague is computers that he is still a burn views the world with general distaste, a posture that a doctor finally identifies as depression.

This book was well received in



Michel Houellebecq's new novel attacks the generation of '68.

page book follows the narrator and a France, selling a respectable colleague as they travel the French 15,000 copies there and being

provinces giving training courses in likened by some critics to Albert Camus's novel "The Stranger." Houellebecq subsequently published two books of poetry and one book of essays and interviews, winning the Grand Prix National des Particules Elementaires," though, alienation and solitude.

did he become a household name. Houellebecq attributes attacks on his new novel to the "pure and simple jealousy" of writers not mentioned in an article in Le Monde listing members of a new generation of literature. In Le Figaro, this new generation was said to comprise a literary movement it called "deprimisme" ("depressionism"), although Houellebecq prefers to describe it as new realism.

But some older writers of the '68

eneration and intellectuals who still see the world through the left-right prism also criticized the book. For them, anyone opposed to abortion, sexual freedom, environmentalism and European integration has to be reactionary. In their case against Houellebecq, Perpendiculaire's prosecuting editors even cited the fact that his expose of the spiritual desolation of modern life won plaudits from a conservative Roman Catholie publication.

More intriguing, however, is why "Les Particules Elementaires" has proved so popular. The most obvious answer is that many French share Houellebecq's dark vision of a post-idealistic, post-ideological France gripped by malaise, unemployment and growing insecurity, where materialism, hypocrisy and corruption have long since replaced dreams of a better life. And if people are looking for someone to blame, why not the generation of '68?

Certainly in his fiction and in interviews, Houellebecq pours scorn indiscriminately on leftists rightists, feminists, environmental ists and anyone who pretends to offer solutions. "Killing off illusions makes us happier, to know that the past is dead," he said in a recent interview. "People with illusions are stupid. Those with religional illusions are not only stra political illusions are not only stupid but dangerous."

His obsession with sex as pornography, prostitution or at best loveless coupling is in turn seen as a denunciation of what has happened to human feelings. For him that is Lettres in 1997. Only with "Les what sexual liberation has come to:



PREMIERE - The actors Billy Crystal, left, Lisa Kudrow and Robert shows - and guests. "I believe there is a De Niro at the opening of their film, "Analyze This," in Los Angeles. lot of elitism in terms of the criticism of

THE Steven Spielberg film "Saving Private Ryan' won best picture and Terrence Malick ("The Thin Red Line") won best director honors at the Chicago Film Critics Awards, Spielberg paid homage to the movie critic Gene Siskel, who died last month. Siskel and his TV partner, Roger Ebert, used the power of television for the better "and have done a remarkable thing for the motion pictures," Spielberg said in accepting his award Monday. The British stage veteran Ian McKellen won the award for best actor for his role in 'Gods and Monsters," an account of the final days of the film director James Whale. Cate Bianchett was honored as best actress for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth in the film "Elizabeth."

In a very different debate from the kind in which Jerry Springer normally gets involved, the TV talk-show host has evoked the memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, to defend his controversial

Oxford Union, Oxford University's de-bating society. Springer said that Diana talked publicly about the same subjects that were aired in his shows, which sometimes feature brawls between guests.
"She talked about not being faithful in

the show," Springer said Tuesday at the

her marriage, she talked about bulimia and she talked about even contemplating suicide," Springer said in an apparent reference to Diana's BBC interview in 1995. "On our crazy, silly show our guests frankly, in their way, talk about the exact same issues." He added, "Be-

cause they're not rich or powerful or famous and they didn't go to Oxford or our Harvard, we seem to call them trash." The Chicago-based TV host was in Britain as part of a promotional tour for "The Jerry Springer Show."

On the Tarmac With the Press Corps

Washington Post Service

PEOPLE

WASHINGTON — Here's certain grist for the conspiracy-tale mill: Consider the poor luck the Clinton administration has had with press buses. The first small mishap occurred during Hillary Rodham Clinton's trip to Africa two years ago, when a helicopter airlifting the press bus dropped it into the sea. The bus was empty at the time.

Tuesday at about 9 A.M., a few dozen reporters, photographers and White House aides were on a bus that ran right into a charter plane that was waiting on the Salt Lake City, Utah, airport tarmac to carry the media horde back to

The driver, from the Le Bus company, didn't see the wing of the plane, but the reporters did. "We just couldn't believe it. At the last minute, we were all yelling, 'Stop!' but it was too late,' said Chuck Babington of The Washington Post. The crash "shattered the top part of the bus windshield and put about a foot-long gash into the end of the wing, where the bus just kind of

The conductor and composer Mi-

5v. T-

chael Gielen, 71, was awarded the Frankfurt music prize at a concert to mark the opening Wednesday of this year's international music trade fair. The 25,000 Demische mark (\$14,000) prize is given every year to outstanding figures in German cultural life, traditionally on the evening before the world's largest music fair begins.

Northern University in Ada, Ohio.

Phyllis Diller has been fitted with a pacemaker after a heart atrack last month "She's doing well," said Milt Suchin, her manager. "We expect her back and working soon. I'm still booking engage-ments." The 81-year-old comedian's next performance is March 27 at Ohio



take in a rock show

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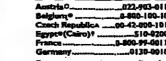
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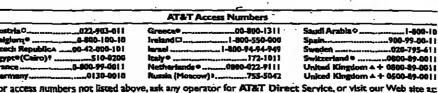
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